

137
Leisure Hours:

OR

ENTERTAINING DIALOGUES;

BETWEEN

PERSONS EMINENT FOR VIRTUE

AND

MAGNANIMITY.

THE CHARACTERS DRAWN FROM ANCIENT AND MODERN

HISTORY.

DESIGNED

AS LESSONS OF MORALITY

FOR

YOUTH.

BY PRISCILLA WAKEFIELD.

VOL. II.

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VOL. I

LEISURE HOURS;

OR

ENTERTAINING DIALOGUES.

DUKE OF AREMBERG.

AS example is generally allowed to be more prevalent than mere precept, I could not but suppose, that so singular an instance of patience and resignation, under a personal calamity, as the character of the Duke of AreMBERG exhibits, might tend to reconcile us to various lesser evils, that each one has to suffer in the course of human life. Our present state is not designed to afford perfect happiness: every individual has his own private allay, the allotment of many, is deep trials and severe afflictions. Such is the law of our present state of existence, and since no wisdom or prudence can avert it, it be-

comes a rational being to consider the best means of alleviating his condition, and of rendering unavoidable evils tolerable. Providence has not neglected to supply us with many dispositions admirably calculated to produce this effect, if we are but wise enough to avail ourselves of them. Cheerfulness, love of employment, and a capability of restraining our impatience and discontent under disappointment, are means of diminishing the weight of misfortunes ; and even of rendering us insensible to small inconveniences, which, though individually trifling, are, when summed up together, sufficiently powerful to embitter the daily enjoyment of those persons, who indulge a spirit of discontent. But leaving my reader to make his own comments on the animating example, that I have chosen as the subject of the ensuing conversation, I hasten to give some account of the principal speaker. The Duke is now living, and lost his eye-sight some years ago, by an accident. He is cheerful and active, and has been heard to acknowledge, that he is a stranger to

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depression of spirits. The loss of eye-sight seems to have added force to his remaining senses: he plays at cards, hunts on horse-back, and performs many things, of which one would suppose him incapable. His contentment and cheerfulness, united with the activity of his disposition, are undoubtedly a full compensation for his misfortune, and teach an instructive lesson of the importance of resignation to the will of Providence, under the most painful dispensations.

A terrace overlooking a fine park, a distant ruin of the country beyond it, and an old castle perceived through the trees.

Duke of Aremburg leaning on the arm of Maria his daughter, accompanied by the Count de Sauffure his friend.

MARIA.

With what glowing colours has the setting sun tinged the horizon! Every object before us reflects a part of his golden splendour. The varied clouds present a rich assemblage of colours, that neither pencil can paint, nor

words describe; the russet brown of the corn fields is become yellow by his rays. The moon begins to rise, and display a less splendid, but more pleasing view; her modest silver beams amply compensate for the absence of the sun.

COUNT DE SAUSSURE.

This terrace is remarkably well situated for enjoying the calm pleasures of the evening. The extensive view that it commands, the western horizon, on the left hand, enriched by the beauties of the declining sun; that large sheet of water, that adorns the park, spread out in the centre, and sparkling with the moonshine that reflects upon it: on the right, yon tall grove of oaks, whose venerable shade fills the mind with an idea of vastness and majesty, combines with the other objects around, to render the whole scene delightful.

MARIA.

My dear father, your misfortune deprives you of the pleasure of perceiving these beauties, which afford us so much gratification; how happy should I be, could you partake of my enjoyment!

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DUKE.

The pleasures that arise from the contemplation of nature, are not conveyed to us by one sense alone. The song of the nightingale, the fragrance of the flowers, and the refreshing breezes of the evening air, affect me perhaps with stronger sensations, than those who enjoy the privilege of sight. Nor do I lose so much as your tenderness leads you to suppose; imagination paints every scene in higher colours than reality presents it: how much superior is my condition to that of one born blind! for, though insensible of his misfortune, he is absolutely deprived of the whole train of ideas, that arise from visible objects; whereas memory, aided by the power of fancy, supplies me with many sources of entertainment, that are wholly inaccessible to him.

COUNT DE SAUSSURE.

Your resignation and patience excite my surprise, and at the same time convince me, that every evil may be diminished, by submitting to it with resolution.

MARIA.

Nay more; my dear father not only bears his loss with fortitude, but frequently draws consolation from comparing himself, even under the circumstance of his blindness, with multitudes of his fellow-creatures; who he says, are far more unhappy in the full possession of all their senses.

DUKE.

Are not ignorance, prejudice, bad habits, and tempestuous passions, greater evils in their consequences, than any that can arise from want of eye-sight? and yet thousands that are called people of condition, suffer this mental blindness without regret, or even being sensible of their defect.

COUNT DE SAUSSURE.

There are few situations, I allow, but may receive advantage from a comparison with the lot of many around us; but we are too apt to be so sensibly affected by any deprivation we ourselves suffer, as to lose sight of the sufferings of others.

DUKE.

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other vice, and whilst it banishes sympathy with the misfortunes of others from our bosoms, becomes its own chastiser, by centering our attention on our particular troubles, and by that means increasing them.

MARIA.

My father is indeed a practical philosopher, he teaches me by his own daily example, to draw good out of evil : patience and courage are the powerful antidotes, with which he resists the misfortunes of life. When the tenderness I feel for him incites me to bewail his blindness, he frequently reproves me, for indulging a spirit of discontent ; nor dare I express the sensations of my full heart, when I perceive that he undergoes pain or inconvenience from that circumstance, lest I should offend him by my complaints.

DUKE.

The filial tenderness, and dutiful attentions of my beloved Maria, afford a source of enjoyment peculiarly grateful to the mind of a fond parent : and shall I possess this blessing, combined with many others, such as health,

fortune, and an active disposition, which supplies me with variety of amusement, without offering the sacrifice of gratitude and thanksgiving to the Great and Beneficent Disposer of events, who has counterbalanced my loss of sight, with so large a share of good things? No, Maria, let us rather, by every means in our power, cultivate a disposition to be happy, by looking on the brightest side of our condition; remembering, that the most unfortunate amongst men, though he be eminently virtuous, still possesses more blessings and enjoyments than he can properly claim, by any merit or deserts of his own.

M. DUVAL; OR THE INFLUENCE OF
MERIT, BALANCED AGAINST OB-
SCURITY OF BIRTH.

HISTORY furnishes numberless instances of merit and genius, that, by some accidental circumstance have been drawn from obscurity, and, by intrinsic worth, have sur-

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mounted the difficulties of poverty and retirement. Among the multitudes who are compelled to labour for their daily subsistence, it is reasonable to suppose, that talents of various kinds are scattered, but want of opportunity, or suitable cultivation, smothers the latent spark, and prevents it from displaying it's powers. The gifts of nature are more equally bestowed than pride and ignorance are willing to allow. Education makes the difference. The son of the peasant, born in a cottage, and allotted to the menial occupations of poverty, may possess abilities, were they nourished by the fostering hand of cultivation, suited to the noblest pursuits. It is the dignified and delightful office of all persons in high rank, but in a peculiar manner of kings and rulers to draw modest merit from obscurity, and, by every honourable token of encouragement and protection, tempt, as it were, individuals to emerge from the privacy of their respective situations, and contribute, by the exertion of their peculiar talents, to the public welfare.

The ancient government of Egypt was exceedingly defective in this respect, and tended rather to suppress genius, than to call it forth. It obliged every son to follow the profession of his father, and, by rendering certain occupations hereditary in a family, prevented the voice of nature from pointing out the pursuit best adopted to the turn of mind of each individual. What a beautiful contrast to this line of conduct, does the character of Leopold, Duke of Lorraine, present. The Belles Lettres flourished under his protection. He established a kind of university at Luneville, where the young German nobility came to be instructed. The real sciences were there taught in schools, where the theory of natural philosophy was demonstrated to the eye, by the most curious apparatus. He sought out men of talents, even in the shops, and in the woods, to bring them forward, and that he might patronize them himself. Nor did he bestow his attention on learning alone, the good of his people was the chief object and design of his reign. He found his dominions

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a desert waste, he re-peopled and enriched them, and preserved them in peace, while the rest of Europe was desolated by war. He was the father of his people, and procured for them tranquillity, riches, knowledge, and pleasure. I would quit my sovereignty to-morrow, said he, if I could no longer do good. He enjoyed the reward of his princely virtues, in the grateful affection of his subjects. His name, long after his decease drew tears of tenderness from their eyes. The hero of the following dialogue was a distinguished object of his munificence and patronage; he rose from the most obscure situation, under the protection of Luin and his son Francis, afterwards Emperor of Germany, to be superintendant of the Imperial Library, and collection of medals at Vienna. This extraordinary person, Valentine Jamerai Duval, was born in 1695, in the village of Artonay, in Champagne. It may be necessary to remark, that hermits formerly were persons who devoted themselves to a very abstemious and retired course of life, concealing them-

selves in caves and deserts from a false idea of devotion, passing their lives in prayer and meditation, and neglecting most of the active duties of a christian life. Many religious orders among the Roman Catholics have assumed the name of Hermits, of this kind, was that society which employed Duval as a cowherd.—

PERSONS.

Duval—*Cowherd to the Hermits of St. Anne.*

Mr. Foster—*An English gentleman who resided at Luneville.*

Baron Pfutschner—*A nobleman at the court of Leopold.*

Brother Palamon—*One of the Hermits.*

A heath. Cattle feeding. At a little distance, the Convent of the Hermits of St. Anne. A cow-boy sitting on the ground, leaning against a tree, with a book in his hand, surrounded by books and maps.

Mr. Foster passing by on horseback, stops, and looks at the boy with attention.

MR. FOSTER.

If it is not too great an interruption, I should like to know what you are about.

DUVAL.

Studying geography, Sir.

FOSTER.

I should not suppose, from your appearance, that you understood much of the subject.

DUVAL.

Appearances often deceive; I do not give up my time to things that I do not understand.

FOSTER.

What place may you be seeking for?

DUVAL.

I am endeavouring to find the most direct way to Quebec, that I may go thither, and study in the university of that place.

FOSTER.

There are many universities nearer than Quebec; your coarse woollen coat and wooden shoes would not lead one to suppose, that your situation entitled you to become a student in an university.

DUVAL.

My birth is obscure, and my employment too menial for the bent of my mind. I am at present cowherd to the Hermits of St. Anne, who reside in yonder convent. They are very kind to me, and provide me with sweet milk and good barley bread, and I might be happy in this situation, if I had no ideas beyond it. The love of reading is my delight, and the only means I have of procuring books, is by laying snares in the woods for game, which I sell of an evening at Luneville, when the labours of the day are over; the money obtained by this means, I lay out at the booksellers; but I cannot supply myself with a sufficient number of books to satisfy my favourite inclination; my present course of life is ill-suited to my taste; I must exchange it for one that will enable me to pursue study and improvement.

FOSTER.

Cowherd to the Hermits of St. Anne! You are the very person I am in search of. I have been told, that you have found a seal, to

which I lay claim. Have you got it about you? I am impatient to see whether it be the seal that I set so high a value upon.

DUVAL.

You are rightly informed that I have found a seal, which I am ready to deliver to the man, that can blazon the arms that are engraven on it; but unless you can satisfy me in this particular, you must excuse me, if I desire you to restrain your impatience, till I have some assurance that you are the right owner.

FOSTER.

You are jesting; I cannot suppose that you pretend to know any thing of heraldry, though you may have acquired some knowledge of geography.

DUVAL.

I am sufficiently acquainted with the science to detect any errors you may make in describing it. The seal is carefully laid up among my things at the hermitage, and shall remain there, till I find an owner that proves his title to it, by a proper emblazonment.

You are a very extraordinary lad! I will give you every satisfaction you require, and a liberal reward for your honesty, in advertising the seal. It is of gold, and might have proved a too powerful temptation for the virtue of many in your abject condition. Your behaviour in this affair shews a noble spirit of uprightness and independence, consistent with that strength of mind which is marked by by your superior attainments. What is your history? I am curious to be informed of every particular relative to you. Tell me without reserve, whatever has befallen you since you can remember. I am a friend to youth and genius, and shall take pleasure in serving you. This meeting may prove one of the most fortunate circumstances of your life. I will introduce you to our gracious Duke, he will patronize you, and place you where you may indulge your thirst for knowledge, and pursue your favourite studies in the most advantageous manner, without going so far as Quebec.

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DUVAL.

My story has nothing in it very interesting to a stranger. I have suffered many hardships and difficulties, which I am not unwilling to relate, if you desire to hear them, as they are unstained by any base or unworthy action. I was born at Artonay, a small village in Champagne; my father was a labourer, and died when I was only ten years old. He left my mother nothing to live upon, but the produce of her industry; as she had been decently brought up, and was ingenious at her needle, she made a tolerable shift to maintain herself and me, of whom she was exceedingly fond. The principal amusement in which she indulged herself, was bestowing a little time every day in teaching me to read; as it was a favourite remark with her, that perhaps it might one day make my fortune. About three years after the death of my father, her health declined, and her disorder, which was a consumption, increased rapidly; she foresaw her approaching dissolution, and felt great anxiety for my future welfare; but

being of a religious turn of mind, she put her trust in Providence, and became resigned to her situation. I shall never forget the advice she gave me a little before she breathed her last. She called me to her bedside; My dear son, said she, tenderly pressing my hand, I have but a little time to live, I feel my strength nearly exhausted; you will be left exposed to the wide world, friendless and unprotected; you will meet with many difficulties and temptations. Rely upon the Divine Power, which will never abandon those who sincerely endeavour to do their duty. You may be poor, and obliged to labour for your daily bread, but poverty is no disgrace, provided it be accompanied with honesty and industry.—In whatever distress you may be involved, adhere strictly to the truth; let nothing be able to tempt you to deviate from it, in the smallest instance, either for the sake of concealing a fault, or obtaining an advantage. This conduct, invariably pursued, will in time gain friends and a good character, and is the most likely means of obtaining an advantage.

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ous settlement in life. The small remains of strength being greatly diminished by this affecting address, she became incapable of continuing her discourse, and in a few hours was released from all her sufferings. At first I was stupified with grief, and not knowing where to lay my head, I wandered about for some time, living upon the accidental charity of well-disposed persons; but this was a very uncertain support, and I frequently suffered great want and misery. In the beginning of the severe winter of 1709, I travelled towards Lorraine, and fell sick of the small-pox in the neighbourhood of a village called Monglat. I certainly must have perished under the united pressure of the inclement season and of the disorder, had it not been for the humane attentions of a poor shepherd, who placed me in a stable, where he sheltered his sheep. He had no better food to give me than coarse bread and water, and no other bed than a truss of straw; but, to these poor accommodations, he added tenderness and the balm of consolation. The breath of the sheep

occasioned perspirations that assisted my disorder, and the strength of my constitution enabled me to surmount it. From that time I passed through various vicissitudes, till chance led me to the Hermits of St. Anne, with whom I reside at present. I take care of their cattle, and assist them in cultivating the garden belonging to the hermitage. They treat me with great kindness; and, if I could be contented to pass my life with the indolence and inactivity of a shepherd, I should not wish to change either my masters or my habitation; but my ambition is excited by nobler objects, and can be satisfied with nothing less than attaining a situation, that will enable me to enlarge and cultivate my intellectual faculties.

FOSTER.

Such a situation I will procure for you, if possible. I will not lose time conversing with you here, but hasten to Luneville, that I may represent your merit and circumstances at court. I have no doubt of success; genius and virtue are the most powerful recommendations there. Adieu till we meet again.—

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DUVAL.

This generous stranger has raised hopes in my bosom, that I trust will not be disappointed. I feel a presentiment of good fortune. The sun shines brighter than usual, and all nature has put on her gayest dress; or, to speak more properly, my mind is disposed to behold every thing in a favourable point of view. The hermitage bell summons me to dinner. I must return to my affectionate masters, and relate to them the events of the morning.—

An apartment in the Hermitage. Mr. Foster, Baron Pfutschner, the Hermits, and Duval.

FOSTER.

Introducing Duval to the Baron.

It is with pleasure I introduce my young friend to your notice. I flatter myself he will be found worthy of my representation; virtue united with genius, are the qualities that have obtained my esteem.

BROTHER PALAMON.

Let me add my testimony to his merit. He

has served us faithfully these two years, and nothing but the prospect of his future advantage could reconcile us to the separation.

DUVAL:

The pleasure that I feel at obtaining an object so long and ardently desired, is greatly embittered by the idea of leaving those I sincerely love, and whose kind protection, when I was deprived of every other, will ever be remembered with filial gratitude.

BARON PFUTSCHNER.

The tender reluctance you shew at parting with your benevolent friends does you the highest honour; but I have the happiness to assure you, that the gracious master you are going to serve, our noble Duke Leopold, will recompense you as much as possible for their loss. He proposes to place you in the College of Jesuits of Pont-à-Mousson, where you may prosecute your studies to what extent your genius may lead you; and if you repay his liberality, by perseverance and a progress equal to the expectations you have raised, he will continue a generous patron

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through life, and bestow those honours and favours that you shall deserve. Take leave of your friends, the carriages are at the gate to convey us to Luneville, where the Duke expects your attendance on him at court.—

[The Hermits tenderly embrace Duval.]

BROTHER PALAMON.

We give you our blessing, and trust that the same Providence that has preserved you hitherto, will guide you through the intricate paths of a seductive world.—

DUVAL.

I thank you for this last mark of your tenderness; the attachment I feel to this beloved retirement, and its highly honoured inhabitants, will never cease but with my life. If my application be crowned with success, and I should attain independence and leisure, I will return to this spot, and devote part of my fortune to rebuild this hermitage, in which I laid the foundation of all the good that awaits me.—Adieu—Adieu.—

**THE CROWN AND HELMET; OR THE ARTS
OF PEACE TO BE PREFERRED TO THE
SCIENCE OF WAR.**

BRAVERY and the love of arms have always characterised the French nation; but warlike enthusiasm was never raised to a higher pitch among them, than at the time when Charles the Sixth was a boy; his father, surnamed the Wise, perhaps suspicious that he had imbibed too much of the spirit of the military gallantry of the age, took an ingenious means of discovering the turn of his character, by presenting him with a crown of gold richly ornamented, and a helmet of polished steel. It is not improbable, that the choice of the young prince might give rise to a dialogue, somewhat similar to that which follows.

KING.

Affairs of state, and the important duties of royalty, engross so large a portion of my time and thoughts, as to leave me but few

opportunities of enjoying your company: the present half-hour being at my own disposal, I have sent for you, that we may pass it together in the unrestrained freedom of private conversation.

CHARLES.

Nothing can be more agreeable to me, than the indulgence of visiting you, especially when you are alone, because then I am at liberty to express myself without reserve, but I have not courage to speak freely, when you are surrounded by a crowd of courtiers and attendants.

KING.

Pomp and ceremony are part of the tribute which kings are obliged to pay to custom, and the eminence of their station; the enjoyment of leisure and social intercourse, is a rare felicity; let us avail ourselves of the present opportunity. On that table are placed a crown and a helmet, one of them is designed as a present for you; take your choice of them.

CHARLES.

It requires no great deliberation, since you permit me to take that which pleases me best; the helmet is mine.

KING.

What motives can induce you to reject a crown, embellished with so many shining jewels, for a helmet of plain steel.

CHARLES.

The ornaments of the crown are very beautiful, and adapted to please my sister, but are not conformable to my taste; the love of arms is my delight, and my highest ambition to become a celebrated warrior, equal in fame to my illustrious ancestors. As I hope to gain your consent to attend the next military expedition, I shall then wear the helmet, and the remembrance that it is your gift, will stimulate me to behave bravely, and deserve your approbation.

KING.

My son, you shew a laudable ambition to excel; direct it to the most excellent objects, and it will guide you to the path of true ho-

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nour; but beware of confining your ideas of merit to warlike exploits alone, the arts of peace conduce more to the happiness of mankind, than all the conquests history records. Select such of our noble progenitors, for your imitation, as have shewn themselves the fathers of their people, by civilizing and improving their manners, solicitous of diffusing virtue and tranquillity among every rank of their subjects.

CHARLES.

But surely those kings are to be esteemed the greatest heroes, who courageously headed their troops, and extended the limits of their kingdoms by their victories.

KING.

They are regarded in that light by those that do not consider, that the prosperity of a nation consists more in the virtue of its inhabitants, than in the extent of its territory. A true hero, in public or private life, is he, who has learned to renounce his personal gratification, in order to confer happiness on others. A conqueror increases his own dominions, by

diminishing those of the princes unhappily situated on his frontier. What would your opinion be of a person, who wished to enlarge his estate, and that he might accomplish his design, seized the fields contiguous to it, belonging to a neighbour less powerful than himself.

CHARLES.

I should declare him both dishonest and ungenerous, because he had taken that which did not belong to him, and had attacked a man that had not provoked him, who was unable to resent the injury.

KING.

The same principles of immutable justice apply to kings and private persons; therefore, according to this decision, Charles, many of those heroes you have been accustomed to admire, will be reduced to the characters of oppressors and plunderers. Had Alexander the Great employed his extraordinary talents in civilizing the Macedonians, instead of depopulating the earth, we should probably have heard less of him, but his subjects would have

reaped much greater advantages from his reign, and his life would have been truly useful; whereas his ambition rendered him the scourge of his fellow-creatures. Divest his most brilliant victories of the false glare that adorns them, and little remains but carnage and misery. Songs of triumph attend the conqueror's car, which drown the lamentations of those made wretched by his success.

CHARLES.

I cannot deny the truth of your remarks, though it is with the greatest reluctance I resign my favourite heroes to the reproach you cast upon them. Must I consider all warriors as pests to society?

KING.

A patriot king never unsheathes his sword for the prosecution of wars created by his ambition; the defence of his country is the only cause that can rouse him to action. Confine your ardour to that point alone, lest your thirst for glory expose your people to misery, when you ascend the throne. Alfred the Great of England, so justly renowned for his

heroic qualities, had spirit to expel those invaders who had driven him into exile; and wisdom, when he had subdued them, to apply himself to the internal government of his kingdom; the beneficial effects of his institutions are still remembered with gratitude, their influence is felt to this day, and endears his memory to posterity, as the universal benefactor of mankind. Copy this example, and lay aside your helmet till you are required to wear it, in chastising the insolent attacks of an unprovoked enemy.

CARLOMAN, KING OF FRANCE.

BEFORE agriculture had made sufficient progress, to clear away the forests that spread over a vast tract of land in different parts of Europe, and harboured a great variety of savage beasts that were hostile to man, hunting the wild boar was a favourite diversion with persons of rank, because the address requisite in these vigorous exercises,

partook of the military spirit of the times; for the chace might be considered as a feeble representation of the field of battle: the conquerors in both were regarded with honour; both being attended with their respective dangers; indeed serious consequences frequently befel the hunters in the contest with this furious animal, which, when hard pushed, sometimes turned hastily round, and attacked his assailants with his sharp tusks; on such occasions, dexterity and courage were equally necessary to avoid the blow, and escape the threatened destruction. Nor were the attacks of the boar alone to be dreaded; many other accidents frequently attended this amusement, the javelins of the hunters were liable to miss their aim, and inflict the blow, which was intended for the prey, on any of the company, who were situated unfortunately in the way. The resentment of the injury was greatly to be apprehended, if the sufferer was of superior quality to the person who was the unoffending cause of the accident; for, in those days of barbarous ignorance, men's

lives were valued in proportion to their rank, and the untimely death of a great man would have been avenged with a vindictive spirit, whilst that of a serf* would have been considered as a matter of small importance. But even in such times of darkness, there have been generous minds, who, disdaining to resent an unintentional error, have practically taught the lesson of forgiveness, and have shone as bright examples to their cotemporaries. The memory of such actions deserves to be preserved, as worthy of the imitation of those who live under circumstances more favourable to virtue.

CARLOMAN, KING OF FRANCE.

Carloman.

Ansegard, *his mother.*

Hugh, *the Abbot.*

Duke Boson.

Count Albruin.

Physician, Attendants, &c.

* A term expressive of a slave.

Duke Boson. Count Albruin.

DUKE BOSON.

Have you heard of the dreadful accident that has befallen the king?

COUNT ALBRUIN.

No; business has detained me in the city all the morning; I am now going to attend his majesty: what misfortune has happened to him?

DUKE BOSON.

He has received a wound from a javelin in the thigh, whether by chance or design, is difficult to determine, for the most amiable monarchs are exposed to enemies from the elevation of their rank, and the impossibility of giving equal satisfaction to all parties. The painful task of imparting this fatal disaster to Ansegard devolves on me; how will her tender heart be pierced, with hearing of the danger of a son so deservedly dear to her!

COUNT ALBRUIN.

Perhaps the wound is not of so much consequence as you apprehend; the king, though young, is temperate; his moderation may be

the means of preserving him from fever.—

What is the physician's opinion?

DUKE BOSON.

The dejection expressed in his countenance confirms our fears, more than his words: he seems reluctant to deliver his sentiments. The moments are too precious to lose thus, I must see the Queen Dowager, and acquaint her with this afflicting news.

COUNT ALBRUIN.

I will hasten to the King, my poor services may be of some use. Adieu, I trust your fears have augmented the evil. [*They separate.*

An Apartment in the Queen's Palace.

Queen attended by her Ladies.

[*A Servant enters.*]

SERVANT.

Duke Boson entreats permission to speak to your Majesty upon a subject of the utmost importance.

QUEEN.

Let him be admitted immediately. What business of consequence can he have to communicate! I fear something is wrong. [*En-*

ter Duke Boson.] Your face betrays the nature of your message ; tell me at once the extent of my misfortune, for I cannot doubt but you have evil tidings to relate.

DUKE BOSON.

Most unwillingly am I the messenger of unpleasant news, but the matter must be disclosed to your Majesty. The King, my gracious master, has received an injury in the chase, from an erring javelin ; the weapon has pierced his thigh. The wound is painful, but great hopes are to be entertained from his youth and the regularity of his life.

QUEEN.

I could not have been assailed in a tenderer part ; free from the slavery of female weakness, I have borne the strokes of fortune on other occasions with determined resolution, but here my fortitude fails. How can I bear to see thee suffer, oh my son ! my dutiful, affectionate son ! how can I relinquish thee ! the bare idea of such a loss chills my heart, and deprives me of all firmness.

DUKE BOSON.

In the most trying situations you have hitherto displayed a constancy superior to your sex; suffer not despair to overwhelm you now, your son may be restored, he may soon recover, and repay your maternal anxiety, by fresh marks of filial attachment: his present state requires more than tears and lamentations, it calls for the exertion of all your powers to give him advice, and afford him consolation; in this extremity the greatness of your mind surely will not permit you to abandon yourself to an useless and inactive grief, by which he will be deprived of the advantage of your presence; a few moments of calm reflection will overcome the surprize this intelligence has occasioned: give me orders to inform his Majesty, that you will visit him presently in his sick chamber.

QUEEN.

Tell him what you think proper; I will endeavour to become tranquil, and as soon as I can regain my presence of mind, I will attend him.

The King's chamber.

[*The King in bed, attended by Duke Boson, Count Albruin, Hugh the Abbot, and other Lords of his Court; the Physician standing by the bed-side. Enter Queen, followed by several Ladies. She embraces the King with tender solicitude.*]

QUEEN.

How fares my son? Doctor, what encouragement do you give your royal patient?

PHYSICIAN.

My principal dependance is on rest and quietness; the wound is deep, and in a critical part; the hand that guided the javelin took too true an aim.

HUGH THE ABBOT.

Has the miscreant been discovered that perpetrated the vile deed?

COUNT ALBRUIN.

The most diligent enquiry has been made, but no certainty has hitherto been obtained. One of the royal grooms is confined on suspicion: if he make no confession before to-morrow, he will be put to the torture, which

will most probably induce him to acknowledge himself guilty of the crime, or to point out the culpable person.

CARLOMAN.

Let me not hear of torture; I will not suffer any of my subjects to be punished for an accident, that perhaps was caused by a push of the boar; there is no proof that the wound was made by a javelin, and still less reason to suppose, that it was effected by design. I have always endeavoured to deserve the love of my people, and reign in their hearts, and their conduct has invariably shewn attachment and loyalty; why should I suspect myself the object of their hatred at the moment I am going to leave them? for I sensibly feel the hand of death upon me. I die in friendship with all the world, and forgiveness of my enemies, if unhappily I have any; particularly the man who may possibly have been the innocent cause of my death;—and I leave it with you, dear mother, as my last and earnest request, that no farther search may be made, or any person suffer on this account.

PHYSICIAN,

The king faints.

DUKE BOSON.

Hasten the Queen into another room, I fear
he will never recover this attack.

[*The Queen retires in extreme grief.*]

HUGH THE ABBOT.

Generous young man, superior in the qualities of thy mind to thy elevated rank, or the natural desire of retaliating an injury. Thy moderation and humanity will be remembered, when the splendid victories of thy cotemporary kings will be forgotten.

COUNT ALBRUIN.

He sinks! he dies! France never lost a monarch of more amiable virtues, gentle in disposition, condescending to his inferiors, and feeling for his fellow-men as brethren, he lived beloved by his subjects, and his loss will be lamented by them with real, not affected regret.

BROTHERLY LOVE EXEMPLIFIED, IN
AN ANECDOTE OF THE DUKE DE
CHARTRES.

THE system of aggrandising the elder branches of families, to the disadvantage of the rest, is derived from the customs of the northern nations, which overwhelmed Europe after the fall of the Roman empire, and is inconsistent with every principle of justice and natural affection: adapted only to the manners of a nation, whose occupation is war; its original object was to unite all the members of a family, under the protection of one powerful chieftain, and at the same time, preserve the inheritance undivided; a circumstance better calculated, in modern times, to gratify the pride of individuals, than to diffuse competence, and the means of subsistence among the natural heirs of the same parent. The present defined state of laws and government renders the union of families unnecessary for the purpose of defence, as our nobles are

no longer permitted to possess fortified castles, or engage with each other in the field, followed by a numerous train of well-disciplined dependants and retainers; but every man, of whatever rank, in this happy country, has an equal claim to protection and security. The French have laid aside this relic of Gothic manners, but it is reasonable to suppose, that the proposal met with great opposition from those who were interested in its continuance. Vast private sacrifices were required in the progress of such a revolution, the few who did not shrink from their duty, but voluntarily resigned the rights and privileges they formerly possessed, for the general good of their fellow citizens and posterity, deserve the highest praise. The disinterested conduct of the Duke de Chartres, eldest son of the late Duke de Orleans, on this occasion, ought not to be passed over in silence, but is worthy of being recorded, as an instance of the amiable generosity of youth, uncontaminated by the commerce of the world, or the depravity arising from sordid views of interest. The persons

introduced in this conversation are, Madame Sillery Brulart, formerly Countess de Genlis, who presided over the education of the children of the Duke d'Orleans, the Duke de Chartres, the Duke de Montpensier, the Count de Beaujolmois, sons to the Duke d'Orleans, and Mademoiselle d'Orleans, their sister,

MADAME DE BRULART,

My dear pupils, the warmth with which you have generally approved the progress of the unexpected revolution that has already emancipated our nation from the fetters of absolute monarchy, shews the goodness of your hearts ; born, as you were, to the highest expectations from the influence of rank and wealth, I behold the effects of my unremitted endeavours to form your characters to virtue, in the patriotic spirit you have displayed ; hitherto you have been required only to approve the actions of others, but if the advancement of freedom is not interrupted, you may possibly be called upon to make considerable personal sacrifices : consider well, that in applauding what has been given up by

others, you pledge yourselves to a certain degree of readiness, to resign, in your turn, those things that may be dear to you, if the interest of the public should demand them of you. A proposal has been made in the National Assembly, to abolish all titles of nobility: will M. de Chartres willingly relinquish his rank, and be considered in future as a private person?

DUKE DE CHARTRES.

The principles that you have impressed on my mind, from my earliest infancy, have taught me that the eminence of my birth, exposed me to live for the happiness of those whom Providence had placed in a more humble station; therefore, if I know my own heart, it will not cost me much regret, to part with an empty title; especially, if it be thought conducive to the welfare of the public,

MADemoiselle.

It will seem very strange to me at first to hear the Duke and Duchess, my father and mother, addressed like private persons; but

whilst I am allowed to live with them, and enjoy the society of my brothers, and you, my dear Madam, whether I possess a title, or am deprived of that distinction, I shall think myself happier than any princess in Europe.

MADAME BRULART.

Your attachment to me is truly gratifying, and agrees with the amiable affection you entertain for your family ; may no future event tear you from its bosom, and deprive you of the protection and comfort you enjoy from the parental tenderness of M. and Madem. d'Orleans.

COUNT DE BEAUJOLLOIS.

My love for you, and my father, and mother, will always be the same, whatever you are called; but why do they refuse to give you the same titles as formerly ?

MADAME DE BRULART.

You are too young at present to comprehend the motives that induce them to adopt this measure, it is sufficient for you to know, that all titles originally were bestowed by kings, on those persons who had deserved an

honourable reward, for some great action; and as they could only be obtained by merit, they were then regarded as the badges of virtue; but, in process of time, they became hereditary, and consequently were less worthy the ambition of a wise man; because as they depended upon the accident of birth, instead of the practice of virtue, they frequently devolved upon the foolish and the vicious.

DUKE DE MONTPENSIER.

I have been always accustomed to the respect due to a prince, and it will not be very agreeable to me to be confounded with the common-people. I shall suppose that an insult is intended, when I am spoken to without the usual appellation.

MADAME BRULART.

It is not impossible, but that you may receive an ample compensation from the National Decrees, for the loss of your dignity. Wealth, if well applied, confers more solid power, than the distinction of titles, as it enables those who possess it, to relieve the necessities of the miserable, to contribute to public

works of utility, to patronize genius and learning; and, in many ways, to promote the happiness and improvement of a great number of their fellow-creatures. M. de Chartres has acquiesced with a graceful readiness to resign the nobility transmitted to him by his ancestors; but a motion has been made in the National Assembly, which, if it take place, will require from him greater magnanimity and disinterestedness than any thing that has been hitherto proposed. It is intended to reject the right of primogeniture, and to divide the inheritance of a father equally between his sons. Can you, my dear young friend, consent, without a murmur, to the partition of the vast estate, to which you have always been considered as sole heir? If you assent to share this large property with your brothers, with an unclouded brow, and a mind unimbittered by regret, you may impartially be esteemed void of selfish views, and adorned with a love of justice, moderation, and fraternal affection, but rarely equalled.

DUKE DE CHARTRES.

Do you suspect that I am incapable of submitting to this decree with pleasure, when my beloved brothers are to partake my inheritance with me, [*he rises and embraces them*]; rely upon my sincerity, when I assure you, that this is one of the happiest moments of my life. My inclination perfectly coincides with this disposal of my paternal property. May the period be far distant, that, by depriving us of a dear parent, shall put us in possession of it; but, when that fatal moment arrives, let us share it with brotherly affection, and undiminished friendship, happier in each others mutual regard, than in the acquisition of the mines of India.

MADAME BRULART.

Nothing can increase the esteem your conduct has inspired me with this day. The consciousness of your own heart is the only adequate recompense you can obtain, united with the grateful love and unalterable attachment of your brothers, for your disinterested generosity; the bond of affection is the strong-

est of ties. May you live long united by it, increasing in friendship and virtue, to the latest period of your existence. I shall be always ambitious of being admitted as one of the chosen few, that will compose your happy society, delighting in the view of your unabated felicity.

THE PETITION OF GAYASHUTA.

THE beauty, simplicity, and persuasive eloquence of the following original composition, (communicated to me by a friend,) is the only apology I shall offer for giving it a place among these Dialogues, though differing from them in form. It is the address of an Indian Chief, to the descendants of William Penn, the founder of the colony of Pennsylvania, of whom I shall mention some particulars hereafter. Onas is the Indian word for quill, their language does not furnish one for pen, writing in the European manner being unknown to them.

TO THE SONS OF ONAS.

The Speech of Gayashuta, of the Seneca Nation, as given in Charge by him to the Corn Planter, to be by him delivered to the Sons of his old beloved Brother Onas.

" Brothers, the Sons of my beloved Brother Onas.

" When I was young and strong, our country was full of game, which the good spirits sent for us to live upon ; the lands which belonged to us were extended far beyond where we hunted ; I, and the people of my nation had enough to eat, and always something to give to our friends, when they entered our cabins ; and we rejoiced when they received it from us : hunting was then not tiresome, it was diversion, it was a pleasure. Brothers, when your fathers asked land from my nation, we gave it them, for we had more than enough ; Gayashuta was among the first of the people to say, " Give land to our brother Onas, for he wants it, and he has always been a friend to Onas and to his children.

Brothers! your fathers saw Gayashuta when he was young; when he had not even thought of old age or of weakness; but you are too far off to see him, now he is grown old: he is very old and feeble, and he wonders at his own shadow, it is become so little: he has no children to take care of him, and the game is driven away by the White People, so that his younger friends must hunt all the day long to find game for themselves to eat; they have nothing left for Gayashuta! And it is not Gayashuta only who is become old and feeble, there yet remain about thirty men of your old friends, who, unable to provide for themselves, or to help one another, are become poor, and are hungry and naked.

Brothers! Gayashuta sends you a belt, which he received long ago from your fathers, and a writing which he received but as yesterday from one of you. By these you will remember him, and the old friends of your fathers in his nation.

Brothers! look on this belt, and this writ-

ing, and if you remember the old friends of your fathers, consider their former friendship, and their present distress; and if the good spirit shall put it into your hearts, to comfort them in their old age, do not disregard his counsel. We are men, and therefore, can only tell you, that we are old and feeble, and hungry and naked; and that we have no other friends but you, the children of our beloved Onas."

This pathetic epistle is a sufficient testimonial of the esteem and regard, in which William Penn was held by the Indians, who lived upon the borders of his territory; he was no less endeared to them by the urbanity and gentleness of his manners, than by his integrity and justice, which he manifested in every transaction with them, disdaining to take a mean advantage of their ignorance or weakness, but fairly purchased those lands, they were willing to spare (though previously granted to him by the crown) at the price they put upon them, which consisted mostly of clothes, tools, and such utensils as they could

not procure among themselves, money being useless to them; by this wise conduct, he gained the friendship of this poor people, and purchased, at a cheap rate, a rich inheritance for his descendants. This great man was born in the year 1644. In very early life, he abandoned all the views of interest and promotion that his birth and intimacy with James the Second, at that time Duke of York, entitled him to expect, and joined himself to the people called Quakers, among whom he became a very eminent minister, and an able defender of their principles, in the support of which he suffered imprisonment, and many hardships, with exemplary fortitude. The manly firmness that he displayed in maintaining what he believed to be truth, was equalled by the toleration he shewed towards others of different sentiments, a conduct which he asserted to be essential to christianity. The strict morality of his life, concurring with the sincerity of his faith, in time reconciled his father, and the rest of his friends, to the change he had adopted in religious profession,

and he regained their favour and affection, of which this circumstance had deprived him. In 1681, he received a grant of a considerable tract of land on the western side of the river Delaware, in North America, as a compensation for some debts due from government to his father, Sir William Penn. This valuable acquisition induced him to leave his native country, and cross the Atlantic, in order to cultivate and civilize the province bestowed upon him, which is now called Pennsylvania, or the Woods of Penn. The wisdom and policy of his institutions have ranked his name among those of the legislators of the first class; Mr. Barry has placed him between Solon and Alfred, in the centre of his celebrated picture of the Elysian Fields, which adorns one side of the room, appropriated to the use of the Society for the Encouragement of Arts and Sciences, as a due tribute of praise to the memory of this man of peace.

REPENTANCE OF HENRY, SON OF HENRY
II. KING OF ENGLAND.

PRINCES are more exposed to various temptations, than persons in the middle rank of life; the different motives of interest, that actuate those who surround them, are frequently the springs of their actions, though unknown to themselves; nor is this observation confined to their conduct in public affairs, but extends to the privacy of their domestic concerns: how many instances does history afford of princes being excited to rebel against their fathers, by the real enemies of both, although, professedly, friends to the royal youth, whom they corrupt by their criminal counsels! Henry the Second, King of England, was wise and valiant, and by the prudent management of his affairs, rendered his dominions at once flourishing and successful, but the satisfaction he might have enjoyed from such a state of prosperity was imbittered, in the decline of life, by the unduti-

ful behaviour of his children, whose disobedience and rebellion were encouraged by his rival, Louis the Seventh of France ; the reflection, that he also was a father, and liable to be assailed in the same tender point, should have restrained him from the treachery and guilt of seducing his son-in-law from that duty and allegiance he owed to the author of his birth : for Henry, eldest son of the King of England, had married Margaret, daughter of the French monarch, and, by this tie, he became closely united to him. Louis, ambitious of aggrandizing his daughter, instigated the young prince to demand, in the most unreasonable manner, to share the kingdom with his father during his lifetime ; but King Henry had too much spirit and resolution to comply with such an improper proposal : the refusal, though tempered with many marks of affection, was ill-received by young Henry, who joined himself in several conspiracies with the enemies of his country and family, against one of the best of parents. Every rank of society, from the throne to the

cottage, is equally obliged to submit to the laws imposed on man by his Creator : the sure consequence of wickedness is repentance. The most poignant remorse seized this unnatural son, when he had no longer an opportunity of shewing, by continued tenderness, the unfeigned sincerity of his repentance. On a sick-bed, in a foreign country, with the prospect of approaching death, he beheld the actions of his past life in their true light. He looked back—but with what regret ! He had but a small space of time, even to assure his father, that he was a penitent ; much less was it in his power to heal the wounds, his want of affection had caused in the parental bosom. What he could do, he did not then neglect ; he dispatched a messenger with the greatest speed to that fond father, whom he had so repeatedly offended, entreating his forgiveness, and most earnestly desiring that he would favour him with his presence ; but that, alas ! was a happiness he was never to enjoy again. The Archbishop of Bourdeaux was commissioned by the King to convey his

pardon and benediction; the interview between him and the dying prince is well adapted to effect and interest the feelings of the mind, in an instructive manner, and to excite all children to the practice of the filial duties they owe their parents, whilst they are permitted time and opportunity to express their gratitude and affection, in the daily intercourse of social life.—

A royal Apartment in the Castle of Martel.—

The Attendants surround the Prince's bed with countenances expressive of sorrow, whilst the Archbishop of Bourdeaux is introduced to his presence.

PRINCE HENRY.

Raising himself with great emotion.

My good Archbishop, you bring me tidings from my father—may I solace myself with the fond hope, that he will condescend to listen to my deep repentance, that he will believe my protestations sincere, when I declare, that nothing but his pardon for my repeated offences, can afford me any comfort

in this awful hour! May I dare to flatter myself, that his tenderness for an unworthy penitent, will plead for me, and prevail with him to visit me, and bestow his last blessing upon me, as a testimony of his forgiveness!

ARCHBISHOP.

The King, your royal father, was greatly affected by the news of your indisposition, and received your message of contrition with every mark of that parental affection, which he has always manifested towards his children; his mind, superior to the feelings of resentment, was only sensible to the circumstances of your present situation; he lamented your illness with expressions of the most lively sorrow, and, desirous of alleviating the smallest of your sufferings, would have set out immediately, to administer, in person, that consolation of which you stand in need.

PRINCE HENRY.

Has any thing prevented him from executing this indulgent design?

ARCHBISHOP.

His faithful ministers, solicitous for the

preservation of a king, so deservedly dear to his people, remonstrated against his exposing himself to the dangers of so long a journey, representing to him, that he owed the care of his person to the welfare of his subjects.

PRINCE HENRY.

And has he entirely relinquished his intention? Alas! I fear that he suspected treachery, and was apprehensive of trusting himself in my power. How justly have I incurred this want of confidence! and especially from him, who had always the most undoubted claim to my fidelity and allegiance: unhappy that I am! I shall never behold him more! His refusal overwhelms me with shame and despair. What assurance can I give him of my change of heart? He puts no dependence on my promises, so often broken. Could he but witness my tears, my sorrow, my unfeigned repentance, my resolutions for the future, (should Heaven listen to my prayers for a few years of life, to make reparation for those I have so shamefully misused,) he would lay aside all suspicion and look upon

me once more as his son ; he would forgive me, he would come and receive my penitential submission.

ARCHBISHOP.

He wanted no motives to urge him to hasten his journey ; the difficulty was to restrain him : a king is not at liberty to follow the impulse of his private feelings as a man, but is obliged to sacrifice them to his public duty. His heart glowed with the affection of a father ; he thought of nothing, but how to assure you of his sympathy and love. Does your Highness recollect this ring ?

PRINCE HENRY.

My father's ring ! Give it me, as a sacred pledge of his returning favour. Oh, precious testimony of pardon, let me press thee to my lips !

[Kisses the ring.]

ARCHBISHOP.

He took it from his finger, and sent it you as a token of his entire reconciliation, and at the same time bestowed his paternal blessing upon you, recommending you to compose your troubled spirits, and aspire after patience

and resignation to the dispensations of unerring Wisdom.

PRINCE HENRY.

I perceive plainly, that I shall never have the satisfaction of seeing him again; but I accept his forgiveness with a grateful heart, and shall resign my breath with the consolatory reflection, that he has received me again as his son; may my example have a proper influence upon the mind of my brother. When I shall be no more, if you have any friendship for me, hasten to him, paint my remorse and despair, in the strongest colours, and assure him, upon the faith of a dying man, that there is no peace for those who rebel against their parents. Tell him, that it is my last request, that he will humble himself, and seek to be reconciled to his father, before the season of health is past; lest, like me, he should not have time to give continued proofs of his sincerity, by a long course of affection and obedience for successive years. Should he hesitate compliance, let him remember,

the death-bed of his brother, and beware of deserving such a fate.

STANISLAUS AUGUSTUS, KING OF
POLAND.

IN recording extraordinary instances of virtue, the characters of kings and eminent persons are generally selected, not because merit is confined to the great, for every degree of mankind furnishes models worthy of imitation, in their respective lines; but the humble excellence of the poor and middle orders, is concealed by the obscurity of their situation, whilst that of persons in superior stations is displayed to public observation. Amongst the illustrious characters of the present century, there are few more distinguished for virtues, talents, and misfortunes, than Stanislaus Augustus, reigning king of Poland. Raised to the throne by the election of the people, he has shewn himself deserving of their choice, a firm friend to liberty, a patron

of learning, and father of his country ; but, unhappily, his designs, for the real welfare and prosperity of his people, have been frustrated by the unjust practices of his ambitious neighbours, the Empress of Russia and King of Prussia, who, by fomenting divisions and factions amongst the Poles, have drawn them into the very snares they had contrived for their destruction. This truly patriotic monarch has been compelled to behold his beloved country distracted by dissensions, which he was unable to appease; to be a spectator of woes, which he could not relieve; and to perceive himself a sovereign, without any real authority or power. In one of these violent contests, concerning religion, which agitated the city of Warsaw about the year 1771, he escaped almost miraculously from an eminent danger of assassination, being exposed, for several hours, to the fury of those who had solemnly sworn to destroy him; but that Divine Providence, without whose knowledge not even a sparrow falls to the ground preserved him from destruction that appeared

inevitable. A more extraordinary instance of the interposition of the Divinity, in the affairs of men, scarcely occurs in history; and manifests, that there are bounds set to the execution of our designs, as well as to the waves of the ocean. "Thus far shalt thou go, but no farther." The malignity of these conspirators was directed against the king's life; but, though he was apparently in their power, and deprived of every human assistance, they were not permitted to accomplish their intention, but were obliged to abandon their enterprize, even when they had entrapped the prey into the snare.

Stanislaus Augustus—*King of Poland.*

General Coccei.

Kosinski,	}	<i>Conspirators.</i>
Lukawski,		
Strawenski,		

Miller, Officer, and Attendants.

A road leading to Warsaw, Lukawski, Strawenski, and Kosinski disguised as peasants, accompanied by several other persons in the same garb, driving waggons laden with hay.

LUKAWSKI.

The city is in view, where we are to perform our glorious enterprize. Consider well, my friends, the nature of our engagement; remember the solemn oaths by which we are bound to our chief, the noble Pulaski, and suffer neither the inconstancy of your own minds, nor the dread of punishment, to deter you from our purpose.

STRAWENSKI.

Do you doubt our resolution, or suspect any of us of treachery? If you have any cause of mistrust, name your man, and let him abandon a project, of which he is unworthy; but if there is no ground for suspicion, confide in us, and believe, that we are determined, and shall act with courage, whenever the fortunate moment arrives that shall put the king into our possession.

KOSINSKI.

We have sworn to deliver him into the hands of the noble Pulaski; or, if that cannot be done, to put him to death. Humanity shrinks from the idea of blood, may we have the good fortune to avoid such a dreadful extremity. Although I attribute the misfortunes of the State to his mal-administration, I acquit him of evil intention; candour obliges me to acknowledge, that he is endowed with many noble qualities of the head and heart.

LUKAWSKI.

His private virtues, as a man, cannot recompense me for his errors as a sovereign. The public welfare requires that he should be surrendered as a prisoner to our chief; or dispatched, to prevent him from the possibility of becoming the instrument of future mischief. I am not actuated by any personal hatred; the love of my country is my motive, and I feel not the smallest repugnance at sacrificing an individual for its benefit.

KOSINSKI.

I concur with you in the sentiment, that private interest should yield to the superior claims of public good; this principle has determined me to enter into my present engagements, and will support me to the utmost extremity in the performance of them, should dire necessity compel me to the horrid alternative.

STRAWENSKI.

We draw too near to Warsaw, to prolong this conversation; keep every man steady to his part; let us lay aside the dignity of manners consistent with our rank, and assume the rusticity of peasants. It will no longer become us to speak concerning affairs of State, but how we can dispose of our hay to the best advantage: each man to his waggon, and he that has the most address, will make the best bargain. To the hay-market, my lads, as fast as we can, so whip your horses, and quicken their speed.

A Hall in the Palace.

[*A confused mixture of persons of all ranks, one of the King's Attendants enters in haste, and almost out of breath.*]

ATTENDANT.

Let the guards be assembled without delay. The king is seized, and carried off by a gang of desperate villains; they attacked his coach as he was returning from the Prince Czartoriski's, and, notwithstanding our utmost endeavours to rescue him from their violence, they have torn him from us, and escaped with their prey. Finding I could be of no further service to him there, I hastened to the palace, in order to give an alarm, that means may be adopted immediately to pursue these daring conspirators, and recover his Majesty from their hands.

[*Several voices at once.*]

Tell us the particulars, relate how it happened?

ATTENDANT.

The extreme darkness of the night favoured their daring attempt. The coachman re-

ceived a command to stop, as he valued his life, from several men, who fired at once into the coach. A Heydue, who bravely defended our beloved sovereign, was terribly wounded, as I discovered by his groans: in the midst of the scuffle, I perceived, that the king opened the door, and jumped out of the coach; doubtless with a view of being better able to defend himself, or perhaps with a design of escaping from his assailants. The next moment I saw the flash of a pistol, and heard the clashing of swords, upon which I made the best of my way hither, as fast as my feet could carry me. There is not a moment to be lost; nay, it may be even now too late, the noble Stanislaus, which Heaven avert, may already have fallen a sacrifice to their villainy. [*A mixture of voices and lamentations.*]

AN OFFICER OF THE GUARDS.

My friends, our consternation and regret deprive us of all presence of mind on this extraordinary occasion. Of what avail are our tears or concerns, unless we use the most pro-

bable means of restoring the person of our royal master to freedom and security ? I will hasten to the spot with my brave soldiers, and endeavour to trace out the conspirators, whilst each one of you may disperse yourselves in the different quarters of the city, and alarm the sentinels on duty, that the possibility of their escape may be prevented. [*General applause. They separate different ways.*]

King and Kosinski.

KING.

The rest of my enemies are fled, you only remain with me. Permit me to sit down for a few moments ; I am ready to sink from the pain of my wounds and excessive fatigue. My strength is almost exhausted.

KOSINSKI.

I cannot grant your request; this is not a moment for delay, you must proceed, [*brandishing a naked sabre over his head*] a carriage is provided at the end of this wood to convey us to our place of destination. It is at

no great distance. Behold this sabre, if you refuse to obey, it must force compliance.

[They go on silently, and in a slow pace, till they perceive the Convent of Bielany. Kosinski appears thoughtful, and his countenance much agitated by the emotions of his mind.]

KING.

Kosinski, you are lost in reflection, and wander without knowing whither you are going. Suffer the suggestions of conscience and compassion to prevail. Relinquish this desperate enterprize, self-approbation will reward you for your change of purpose. Yonder are the turrets of the Convent of Bielany, allow me to take refuge within its walls, whilst you have opportunity to escape the vigilance of my avengers, and can find proper means of providing for your own safety.

KOSINSKI.

My honour forbids me to consent to such a measure, I have solemnly sworn, and shall I abandon my engagement?

[They continue walking on.]

KING.

Whatever consequences may ensue, I can go no farther, the loss of blood from my wounds, and the fatigue I have suffered, quite overpower me. Give me leave to rest for a few moments, or I shall certainly faint.

KOSINSKI.

Refresh yourself for an instant under this thicket, which may conceal us from observation. When you have recovered breath, we must proceed, for I cannot admit of long delay.

[They both sit down on a bank.]

KING.

Thanks for this favour. Cannot I move you to take pity upon my unhappy situation. There appears a magnanimity in your disposition, ill-suited to the office you have undertaken. Humanity and mercy are the characteristics of a great mind; suffer me to escape, you will not repent of it. I am your sovereign, and have an undoubted claim to your allegiance and fidelity: renounce the engagements by which you have bound yourself to

act against me, they cannot be valid, because you had not a right to enter into them.

KOSINSKI.

Were it not for this fatal promise, but I have confirmed it with the most dreadful oaths, and can I violate them, and betray my confederates? shall it be said, that Kosinski is a faithless villain! No, I cannot bear the imputation. I have begun and must go on, till I have accomplished my engagement.

KING.

A promise cannot be binding that is rendered void by a prior duty; your fealty was engaged to me, before you pledged yourself to the performance of this enterprize?

KOSINSKI.

How my heart pleads in his favour! (*aside*) My situation is truly embarrassing, but my plighted faith forbids me to listen to your persuasive arguments. I must not hear you, my vow will not permit me to alter my purpose.

Shaded by the KING.

Mercy assumes an influence over you; attend to her dictates, she will teach you, that it is greater to relieve the oppressed, than to inflict an injury. The delicacy of your conscience may be appeased by the remembrance, that a true sense of honour claims a renunciation of engagements with traitors and rebels against their sovereign. Suffer me to seek a place of safety.

KOSINSKI.

My consent must be at the price of my own life. Tortures and death await me, as the sure consequence of your release.

KING.

Rely upon my assurance, that your life shall be safe under my protection. No injury shall befall you; but, if you doubt my sincerity, secure yourself by flight. I will give your pursuers contrary directions to the way you shall chuse, and will engage their attention, till you have sufficient time to escape beyond their reach.

KOSINSKI.

You have subdued me by your persuasions, my resolution is shaken, and yields to the emotions of compassion and repentance. (*He kneels*) Forgive me, most injured and generous Sovereign, accept these tears as marks of my contrition, believe them, as they really are, the effusions of my heart; I confide in your mercy alone, dispose of me as you think proper; I will not only conduct you to a place of security, but will defend you against every one that shall dare to attack you.

KING.

Noble Kosinski, the native sentiments of thy mind resume their place, and overcome the erroneous opinions thou hadst lately adopted. Lay aside all apprehension, and confide in my honour; but here we are exposed to many dangers; let us seek for a shelter, where we may safely take a little repose. I remember there is a mill at no great distance, we will hasten to it, though a humble cottage,

H 2

it may prove a convenient asylum in my present distress.——

A Room in the Miller's Cottage.

King, Kofinski, Miller and his Family. General Coccei enters and falls upon his knees before the King.

THE MILLER:

Alas! what does this mean? I thought some misfortune would befall us, as soon as I suffered these strangers to come under my roof.

GENERAL COCCEI.

My King, my Sovereign, permit me to congratulate you upon your preservation: by what miracle have you escaped the danger to which you have been exposed?

KING.

Rise, my friend, and I will relate the accidents that have befallen me since I left Warsaw.

GENERAL COCCEI.

General despair seized the city; what hopes could be entertained of recovering you

alive, when your cloak was found pierced with pistol bullets ?

[*A little girl, daughter to the Miller, creeps to the King, and looking up in his face, says*]

Is this a king ? he has no crown upon his head, and his face is all torn and bloody.

KING.

Pretty innocent, her remark is natural. As soon as I discovered the design of the conspirators, I jumped out of the coach, that I might be more at liberty to resist their attacks, or escape by favour of the darkness, from their pursuit ; but they seized me by my hair, before it was possible to elude their grasp, and with the most threatening execrations, fired a pistol at me, which passed so near my face, that I felt the heat of the flash ; having received several wounds, I was compelled to surrender myself ; after mounting their horses, they dragged me between them a considerable way, till I was almost breathless ; finding it impossible that I should proceed far in this manner, they placed me upon

one of their horses, and obliged me to try to leap over the ditch, that surrounds the city; in this attempt, the horse fell twice, and in the last fall broke his leg; not even this difficulty discouraged my persecutors, they mounted me upon another, and as soon as I had passed the ditch, they plundered me of most of the valuable ornaments I wore; the difficulties we encountered, diminished the number of my companions. With the few that remained, I wandered about in open meadows, sometimes on horseback, at others on foot. Repeatedly did I hear them entreat Kosinski, to whom I owe my life, to give them orders to assassinate me, but he always restrained them from offering me violence, requesting them to treat me with more gentleness, and to spare me some accommodations, of which I was in great need, as a cap to cover my wounded head, and a boot for my bleeding foot, having lost one in my way. Trifling as these things may now appear, they were, at that moment, of the utmost value. Ignorant of our way, without any road, we proceeded through

places nearly impassable, and I should have been inevitably sacrificed to the despair of the assassins, had not the authority of Kosinski preserved me from their fury. My enemies, alarmed by the approach of several Russian patrols, fled by degrees, and abandoned me to the guidance of Kosinski only, who yielding to the convictions of his own mind, and my solicitations, became my protector, friend, and preserver; he has conducted me safely to this honest miller's, from whence I dispatched a messenger as soon as possible, to give notice, that I was still alive, and to order you to bring a sufficient guard, to convey me back to my faithful people.

MILLER. [*Kneeling.*]

I humbly entreat your Majesty will forgive me, for refusing to let you in, when you knocked at the window; I really thought my house was beset with robbers.

KING.

I forgive you readily, and will reward you liberally, for the protection you have afforded me.—General Coccei, can you give me

the pleasant assurance, that my brave attendants, who defended me at the first attack, have escaped the swords of my assailants?

GENERAL COCCEI.

One of the Heydues lost his life, in endeavouring to preserve that of your Majesty.

KING.

The remembrance of his fate will allay the joy I shall feel, at the loyal congratulations of my people upon my preservation; the only recompense I can bestow, is to provide for his widow and children, and erect a monument to the memory of such an heroic action. Gratitude requires that I demand a free pardon for Kosinski, to whom I am indebted, not only for my life, but many alleviations of my misery. I desire also, that the lives of the subordinate conspirators may be spared, as I consider them as men deluded by the arts of their leaders. Justice and policy oblige me to yield their chiefs to the disposal of the Diet; but it is my particular request, that their punishment may not be augmented by tortures and lingering sufferings, which are

disgraceful for man to inflict on his fellow-creatures, whatever may have been their crimes.

THE REMARK OF LOUIS THE ELEVENTH,
KING OF FRANCE, ON SEEING THE
TOMB OF THE DUKE OF BEDFORD.

LOUIS the Eleventh of France, was a prince as remarkable for the great talents of his mind, as for the depraved qualities of his heart. Early in life he discovered the propensities of his disposition, by the most rebellious contempt and perverse rejection of his father's offered pardon for his offences. His pride rendered him too haughty to conciliate the esteem of his inferiors, by assuming even decency in his conduct. He did not dissemble the joy he felt at the decease of that parent, which raised him to the throne. The first acts of his government convinced his people, especially the nobles, that, under his reign, they had nothing to ex-

pect, but the arbitrary sway of an unfeeling tyrant, who would sacrifice their welfare and interest to the gratification of his own personal ambition and lust of despotic power. Politic, cunning, cruel and unjust, he scrupled no means to attain his designs; and though too far advanced in vice, to blush at his own crimes, his penetration taught him to value virtue in general, and to respect it in others, when it did not interfere with the success of his projects. The predecessor of Louis the Eleventh, had just apprehensions for the safety of his crown, while the affairs of his ambitious neighbours were conducted by the Duke of Bedford, whose character will appear to great advantage, contrasted with that of the perfidious Louis, wise, judicious, valiant, and moderate; he exerted his extensive genius for the benefit of his country.—Some years after his death, an incident happened, which will shew, that the discerning spirit of Louis, held the memory of this great man in the estimation it merited, though his

want of virtue prevented him from pursuing the same path to the temple of honour.

Inside of the Cathedral at Rouen.

Louis the Eleventh and a Courtier, observing the Monuments.

LOUIS.

Here lie the remains of many great warriors, subdued by the universal conqueror alone, to whom the proudest must at last submit.

COURTIER.

But even death cannot deprive those, whose exploits have rendered their memory illustrious, of the grateful tribute of posterity.

LOUIS.

That is some consolation ; but still it is a mortifying reflection, that in the midst of a man's most prosperous career, he is liable to be interrupted by this grisly monster.

COURTIER.

The idea is too melancholy to dwell upon, the healthy and the young, like your Majesty,

may consider his attacks as a distant evil, which they do well to forget.

LOUIS.

Flattery is seldom unwelcome, but here of small avail; could it defer the threatened stroke, kings might indeed be envied.

COURTIER.

Whose tomb is this? The great Duke of Bedford's, that formidable enemy to France; the marble which records his virtues and achievements, is but a monument to perpetuate our disgrace: perish his memory! it insults us with the recollection of our defeats. In this very town, he basely triumphed over the undaunted valour and magnanimous heroism of the inspired Maid of Orleans; give orders, my gracious Sovereign that it be demolished, as one means of consigning the fame, and the ashes of this celebrated general to oblivion.

LOUIS.

Vengeance extends not to the grave; let his remains rest in peace, he is no longer terrible; but such were his courage and re-

solute conduct when alive, he would have made the boldest of us tremble. Death has humbled him, and when I have nothing to dread from the great qualities of an enemy, I am ready to bestow the applause upon them which they deserve. Instead of wishing the destruction of his sepulchral honours, I regret that they are not more worthy of the hero they contain.

THE SORROWS OF REPENTANCE SUCCEED THE GRATIFICATION OF REVENGE.

THE melancholy efforts of passion and prejudice, occur frequently in every scene of life. Anger, when unrestrained, reduces the wise man and the fool to the same level; nay more, the intoxication of passion, has in a moment overturned the best resolutions of the virtuous, and forgetful of those principles, by which his conduct has generally been guided, he has been precipitated

into actions characteristic, only of the most abandoned. Not history alone, but the ordinary transactions of private families, are full of incidents, that prove the truth of this position, and the necessity of checking the earliest propensity to sudden anger and hastiness of temper. Those who are addicted to this vice, often console themselves with remarking, that it is but the involuntary fever of a moment; that although they are hasty, they are superior to the feelings of resentment, or the suggestions of malice; without reflecting, that in the space of that momentary heat, they may unfortunately lay the foundation of bitter repentance for the remainder of their lives; intent on gratifying the present desire of satiating their displeasure; the tormenting accusations of conscience are concealed from their view, till it be too late to recal the consequences of their imprudent fervour; the still small voice of that inward monitor is seldom heard amidst the turbulence of conflicting passions; but when they have subsided, and time affords

opportunity for cool recollection, she re-assumes her empire, and inflicts those penalties, that are annexed to guilt, with the most unerring certainty, as the sure price of deviation from the path of rectitude. The occurrence, that forms the subject of the subsequent dialogue, will illustrate the folly and wickedness of yielding to the impulse of anger, and the power of conscience over those minds, that are not hardened by the habitual practice of vice. Montford, though influenced by a strong emotion of revenge, for great and repeated injuries, that he had received from Clifton, to the perpetration of an action, that violated every principle of honour and justice, was, notwithstanding of an amiable disposition, and had displayed, on many trying occasions, instances of his generosity, humanity, and moderation. If such a man could be led to commit an act of treachery, dissimulation, perfidy, and murder, by the impulse of violent passion, how needful does it appear, that every individual should repel its first attacks, and study to attain self-possession.

sion, and a well-regulated mind. Let each one apply the moral to his own heart, and guard with caution the avenues to evil.

Montford—*Duke of Brittany.*

Oliver de Clifon—*Constable of France.*

The Lord of Laval.

John de Bavalan—*Governor of the Castle of
l' Hermine, belonging to the Duke.*

An Apartment in the Castle,

Montford and Laval.

LAVAL.

Let me beseech your Grace, to consider the fatal consequences of betraying the constable, when, from unsuspecting confidence, he has put himself into your power. Honour and the sanctity of your protection, require his immediate release.

MONTFORD.

I have taken my resolution, and nothing shall move me to alter it.

LAVAL.

Let my prayers prevail with you to recal that declaration, so injurious to yourself; the

deed will blast your fame for ever. Will you suffer it to be said, that the Duke of Brittany arose from the convivial board of his enemy, Clifton, and, under the mask of reconciliation, invited him to enter his castle, professing to desire his opinion of the fortifications, and then seduced him, under false pretences, into the principal tower, to detain him there as his prisoner? Forbid it justice! forbid it every noble principle of truth and humanity!

MONTFORD.

Vengeance is now in my own hands; and shall your punctilious scruples deprive me of such a fortunate opportunity, of retaliating the many cruel injuries I have suffered from his brutal insolence? He does not deserve to be treated with generosity. When victorious, blood and ferocity have always marked his way. Let him repent his crimes in the dungeon, I have prepared for him.

LAVAL.

I dread the effects that must follow. You will be the greatest sufferer; he can be deprived of life only, but the remembrance of

this affair will stamp your reputation with eternal disgrace.

MONTFORD.

Laval, I have long valued your friendship, though, if you do not desist from these reproaches, I shall no longer regard you as a friend, but as an impertinent intruder, whom I shall instantly drive from my presence.

LAVAL.

At no time have I ever given you a sincerer proof of my fidelity, than at this moment; but since it is unwelcome, I will withdraw, ardently hoping, that your anger may cool, before it be too late to retrieve your injured honour.

Montford and John de Bavalan.

MONTFORD.

Have you obeyed my instructions with respect to your prisoner Clifson; is he heavily fettered, and kept under close confinement.

JOHN DE BAVALAN.

I have strictly observed the directions I received.

MONTFORD.

My further commands are, that in the dead of night, when every suspicious eye is asleep, that you will complete my revenge, by inclosing this blood-thirsty villain in a sack, and consigning him to the deep, from whence he will never again trouble my presence.

JOHN DE BAVALAN. [*Kneels.*]

On my knees, I entreat your Grace, to spare me so base an office. Lay aside a design, that can only reflect disgrace and reproach on your well-earned laurels.

MONTFORD.

I did not send for you to consult you, but to make known my will, which I expect you will perform without hesitation.

JOHN DE BAVALAN.

At least suffer me to persuade you to defer the execution of this project till to-morrow. You may then, perhaps view it in its true light, and see that it must stain that honour, which you have always cherished without blemish.

MONTFORD.

I will hear no further arguments. Obey my orders, or you shall pay the forfeit of disobedience with your head.

JOHN DE BAVALAN.

Most reluctantly do I submit to your commands. *[Exit.*

MONTFORD.

[Sitting in a loose Gown alone in his Chamber, at the dawn of Morning.]

In vain does the blushing east announce the return of morning, inviting all nature to rejoice at the approach of another day. To me it brings nothing but additional misery, from the poignancy of my own reflections. Had it been but possible to have recalled the fatal mandate before the hour appointed for its execution. Ah, wretched me! what avails my unseasonable repentance. *[He pauses]* Does not a gleam of hope arise through this dreadful gloom, in the possibility of Bavalan's disobedience? but here he comes, to confirm or dissipate my just apprehensions.

Enter John De Bavalan.

JOHN DE BAVALAN.

I come to inform your Grace, that I have punctually executed your orders. Your enemy is no more, but has suffered the penalty due to his cruelty and injustice.

MONTFORD.

Most miserable news! Why were my commands so precipitately obeyed? This officious haste is most unwelcome. A faithful minister should delay the performance of those mandates, which are given when the mind is clouded with passion.

JOHN DE BAVALAN.

You were so very preremptory and decisive, that I did not dare to disobey you.

MONTFORD.

Your fatal rashness has undone me. I shall never again support the fight of my fellow-creatures. Every one will point at me for the foul dishonour with which I have debased myself. Hide me for ever from observation. Carry me to some dark chamber where the light never intrudes,

JOHN DE BAVALAN.

I have no extenuation to plead for my conduct, but implicit obedience to the commands of my master.

MONTFORD.

Avoid my presence for your presumption. You should have distinguished the dictates of passions from those of reason. Suffer no one to approach me, I will expiate my crime by abstaining from sustenance. Life is become hateful to me, I cannot support the consciousness of my own guilt.

Montford and John de Bavalan.

JOHN DE BAVALAN.

Permit me once more to disturb your retirement; I was afraid to confess in the morning, that I had not obeyed your commands, lest your displeasure against Clifton should revive.

MONTFORD.

What do I hear! Does he yet live! Have you saved me from disgrace, and the insupportable reflection of having been guilty of an

act of treachery and baseness, towards an enemy trepanned into my hands!

JOHN DE BAVALAN,

He lives, and is in safety. Assured that the noble generosity of your nature would return, upon the cool consideration of an act, that could only result from the momentary influence of passion, I ventured to preserve him, at the risque of not complying with your positive injunctions. Forgive me this first instance of disobedience. Loyalty and a zeal for your honour were my motives, and I trust, will fully apologize for my conduct.

[Montford rises, and embraces him with warmth.]

MONTFORD.

Guardian of the purity of my fame, let me thank you for thus preserving me from myself. What recompense can I offer as an adequate acknowledgment of my gratitude. Words cannot express my sensations at the joy I feel at this unexpected relief from misery. To you I am indebted for whatever future good life has in store for me. My Friend! my De-

liverer! name your reward for this proof of your loyal attachment.

JOHN DE BAVALAN.

I ask no other reward, than the peace of mind that awaits a consciousness of inward rectitude; sufficiently happy, that I have had an opportunity of preventing you from tarnishing your reputation, by a deed unworthy of your illustrious name.

MONTFORD AND CHARLES OF BLOIS.

FEW situations afford more suitable opportunities of displaying the virtues of generosity, forbearance, and magnanimity, than a rivalry for superiority, in which the object to be obtained is important and interesting. The same passions are excited in private disputes, and the same virtues required, as in the struggle for a crown; for it is not the magnitude of the prize, but the value that is set upon it, that stimulates the competitors. Generosity towards a rival, and com-

passion for a vanquished enemy, are characteristics of a noble nature, superior to the baseness of envy or the insolence of pride. That the same man should furnish an example of this species of magnanimity, so contrary to the spirit of vindictive treachery, manifested in the transaction of the last dialogue, must appear extraordinary to those, who have not yet studied the human heart, or have not observed the inequality of the most perfect characters. From whence an instructive lesson may be drawn of humility and distrust of ourselves; for, however sublime the heights of virtue are, to which we think we have attained, we are still fallible, and exposed to the danger of yielding to some sudden temptation, by trusting too implicitly in our own strength. A disputed title to the inheritance of the Duchy of Brittany, was the cause of long and bloody contests between Montford and Charles of Blois, the rival competitors for this valuable possession. There being no heirs in a direct line, afforded grounds for this quarrel. The late Duke John left it to

this quarrel. The late Duke John left it to his niece Jane, whom Charles of Blois had married. Montford, desirous of invalidating the right of females to the succession, asserted his claim as next male heir, being half brother to John. After an undecided struggle of many years, during which they had each experienced various turns of fortune, they came to a mutual agreement, to divide the Duchy equally between them; but this pacific determination was frustrated, by the ambition of the imperious consort of Charles of Blois, who, considering it as her patrimony, would consent to no terms of accommodation, but insisted upon the possession of the whole. It was therefore, once more determined to have recourse to arms, and decide the dispute by a battle, which, in its consequences, illustrated the excellent dispositions of both the conqueror and the vanquished, had they not been smothered by contending interests, and the turbulence of ambitious projects,

Montford.

Charles of Blois.

Lord of Leon,

Lord of Rohan,

Lord of Laval;

Lord Chandos, *an adherent to Montford.*

Herald.

} *attached to Charles of Blois.*

A Camp. A Herald approaching the tent of Charles of Blois.

LORD OF LEON.

A Herald advances from the enemy's camp, he seems to bring terms of pacification.

CHARLES OF BLOIS.

Let him declare what he has to say, but my resolution is already fixed, to maintain my wife's title to the whole inheritance by force of arms.

HERALD.

I come from the noble Count of Montford, to demand, in his name, your performance of the treaty which you lately signed, agreeing to an equal division of the Duchy. If you persist in refusing so just a requisition, he calls

Heaven to witness, that you are the sole aggressor, and the cause of prolonging the miseries and devastations of war to your unhappy country, which he is desirous of terminating by an equitable accommodation.

CHARLES OF BLOIS.

Return to him that sent you, with this message, that I am prepared to meet him in the field, and assert my just rights on the point of my sword. Tell him that two suns cannot shine in the same hemisphere, and that the only means of finishing our disputes, is the submission of the vanquished to his victorious rival,

A Field of Battle, both Armies drawn up ready to engage.

MONTFORD,

[At the head of his Troops].

My brave comrades, before hostilities are begun, I make this solemn declaration of my readiness to agree to the reasonable terms of division, proposed by the treaty of the Lundes,

which I command to be read aloud by my herald, that the moderation of my demands, and the refusal of my antagonist to comply with them, may be fully known to all parties. Nay, I go further, I offer to lay down my arms, and resign all my claims to the sovereignty of the Duchy, if the nobles of Brittany come forward, and give their opinion that I ought to do so; but if they are still willing to support me, I am ready to engage, and rely upon him, who is the avenger of the innocent.

[General acclamations] Bring us to action! Justice and Montford! We are ready to lay down our lives in his cause.

Alarm. Skirmish. The adherents of Charles of Blois are routed, and flee before the enemy.

Charles of Blois, the Lords of Laval and Rohan, endeavouring to recal the Soldiers to their duty.

CHARLES OF BLOIS,

Repair to your standards, my friends, this is the hour of victory or death.

LAVAL.

All will be lost, if we cannot rally our men,

ROHAN.

The contest has been fierce, my brave fellows, recover your posts, or we shall lose the day.

[Charles almost surrounded by the enemy; Laval and Rohan with a few chosen friends drive them off, and form a rampart about him.]

LAVAL.

The enemy presses hard upon us, let us defend our beloved master in this extremity.

ROHAN.

My life is at his service, I will never desert him,

CHARLES.

My generous friends, it is in vain you thus bravely expose yourselves for my cause: we must yield to superior force. *[Some of the enemy rush in and attack Charles of Blois, he falls.]* The contest is at an end. I am mor-

tally wounded, and Brittany is Montford's. Had I listened to the suggestions of conscience, I had sheated my sword long ago; but my affection for my wife would not allow me to accept the just proposals that were offered me. My death must atone to the injured Bretons, for all the evils I have occasioned them. The icy coldness of dissolution is upon me. Oh my wife! I sink, I die!
[*He dies.*]

Enter Montford and Lord Chandos.

CHANDOS.

The victory is yours, my Lord. There lies your foe, vanquished in the dust.

MONTFORD. [*Bursts into tears.*]

Alas, my noble Cousin! I lament your disastrous fate. What pity, that you would not moderate your ambition: Brittany might have escaped many calamities, and you have been happy in the enjoyment of those privileges and honours to which you were born. May you obtain forgiveness for all your errors, at

that tribunal, before which you are summoned by the stroke of fate.

CHANDOS.

My lord, leave this scene of defeat and distress; be thankful for the success you have obtained, and cease to regret the death of your opponent; had his life been preserved, it must have deprived you of the possession this victory has bestowed upon you, or have renewed the horrors of war upon your exhausted country.

MONTFORD.

I acknowledge the wisdom of your counsel, let an immediate stop be put to any further effusion of blood: we are now all friends, and have but one cause to support. Make it known to the partizans of my deceased Cousin, that they are at full liberty to pay every mark of respect to the remains of those, who fell bravely in espousing the fortunes of their master. Merit demands esteem, whether found in a friend or an enemy.

HUMPHREY, DUKE OF GLOUCESTER, AND
CARDINAL BEAUFORT.

AMBITION, like most other passions, has two sides; whilst it is restrained within moderate bounds, and confined to proper objects, it is favourable to virtue: but whenever it exceeds those limits, and can be satisfied with nothing less than surpassing every competitor in the same career, it becomes criminal and destructive to the person whom it governs. The unhappy struggle for superiority, which was maintained with fierce animosity, by the Duke of Gloucester and Cardinal Beaufort, in the reign of Henry the Sixth, was the result of excessive ambition, and ultimately proved the ruin of both parties. The office of Protector, which the Duke enjoyed during the King's minority, gave him more power than the pride of the Cardinal could bear to see in the hands of a fellow subject. The transactions of the following piece

will show, that it would have been happy for these aspiring rivals, had they subjected their inordinate desire of rule, to that precept, which teacheth to do unto others, as we would they should do unto us. An adherence to this principle is a sure guide in every situation, being equally adapted to produce happiness and virtue in the bosom of a peasant or an emperor.

**HUMPHREY, DUKE OF GLOUCESTER, AND
CARDINAL BEAUFORT.**

PERSONS.

King Henry VI.

Queen Margaret.

Duke of Gloucester.

Cardinal Beaufort.

Duke of Suffolk.

Duke of York.

Duke of Somerset.

Earl of Salisbury.

Duchess of Gloucester.

The Palace.

Duke of Gloucester, Cardinal Beaufort, Salisbury, York, Buckingham, Somerset.

GLOUCESTER.

My heart is full of care, brave Nobles, I must make you the confidants of my anxiety ; no private grief oppresses me, but such as affect you all ; indeed the public weal is interested in my complaint. This marriage of the King with Margaret, daughter of the King of Sicily, destroys our affairs in France, for which my Brother Henry spared neither men nor treasure ; shall all the fruits of his toils, and those of the politic administration of my Brother of Bedford, be given away by this disgraceful league ? Nay, cannot each of us show scars, that bear honourable testimony to our patriotic endeavours, to confirm our right of conquest in that country, and shall we tamely resign possessions obtained at so high a price ?

BEAUFORT.

Nephew, restrain your warmth, France is as much our own, as before this marriage.

GLOUCESTER.

It is no longer ours but in name. The Duke of Suffolk has prodigally bestowed Anjou and Maine upon our new queen's father, who, though great in dignity, is very poor.

SALISBURY.

By giving up the province of Maine, he has left Normandy exposed to the designs of our perfidious enemies.

YORK.

No apology can be made for the Duke of Suffolk's conduct; I would have lost my life before I had consented to such terms. It is a new fashion to purchase a royal consort for our king, our former queens enriched the treasury with their dowers.

GLOUCESTER.

Suffolk has not neglected his own interests, the subsidy he demands to defray the expences of this embassy, is far beyond the merit of his services. She might as well have remained

in her own country, for any advantages that England will reap from this alliance.

BEAUFORT.

Beware of indulging this spirit of discontent. The match was the King's choice.

GLOUCESTER.

My Lord Cardinal, the motive for your opposition does not arise from difference of sentiment, but because my presence is insupportable to you; I can see plainly your ill-will marked upon your countenance. I will withdraw, lest our former disputes should be revived. My lords, good day: remember my prophecy, that the time is not distant, that France will be wholly lost. [Exit.

BEAUFORT.

Our Protector has left us in great warmth. You all know that he is my enemy; nay, he is not well disposed towards any of you, and much I fear his friendship for the king. It is not surprising that he disapproves the marriage of our sovereign, it clashes with his own chance of succession; he is next of blood, and may have hopes, notwithstanding the king's

youth. Do not suffer your judgment to be imposed upon by his popularity, although he is the idol of the common people, I have reasons for suspecting the purity of his views,

BUCKINGHAM.

The office of Protector should be abolished; is not the King of age to govern in his own name? If we unite our strength with the influence of the Duke of Suffolk, we shall soon be able to compel Gloucester to descend from his high seat.

BEAUFORT.

This is a matter of too great importance for delay; I will go and consult Suffolk immediately. [Exit.

SOMERSET.

The pride of this haughty prelate is more obnoxious than that of Gloucester. Let us watch his motions, for should he displace his rival, he will aspire to the same dignity.

SALISBURY.

I have never observed any thing reprehensible in the Protector; but the towering ambition of Beaufort is better suited to a soldier

or a statesman, than to the moderation of a saint. Let us unite for the public good, unbiased by our attachment to either party. The time calls for haste ; away, a storm threatens the state, avert its effects by your vigilance.

Duke of Gloucester's House.

Duke and Duchess of Gloucester.

DUCHESS.

My Lord, what makes you thoughtful? Is it the favour fortune has lavished upon you, that renders you unhappy? She is a fickle goddess, and has smiled upon you hitherto ; court her, whilst she is in good humour, the crown is almost within your grasp ; if you want courage to seize it, let me embolden you ; together we shall ensure success.

GLOUCESTER.

Banish these ambitious thoughts, if you desire to preserve a place in my affections. I love my king and nephew, virtuous Henry, too well to injure him. May that moment be my last, in which I listen to such suggestions !

Enter Messenger.

MESSENGER.

My Lord Protector, his majesty invites you to meet him at St. Alban's, to go a hawking with him and the queen.

GLOUCESTER.

I accept his invitation: your Grace will bear me company. *[Exit.*

DUCHESS.

Were I a man, a duke, and heir apparent, I would soon remove every obstacle to my promotion; but my husband has no spirit, he is contented to be second when he might be the first. He may frown and discourage my hopes, but he shall not persuade me to abandon my schemes. My plan is so well laid, it cannot fail.

*An Apartment in the Palace.**Queen Margaret and Duke of Suffolk.*

QUEEN.

My Lord Duke, is it the custom of the English court, for the king to submit to the

guidance of a protector: King Henry is no better than a tutored school-boy, under the government of the surly Gloucester. Am I acknowledged Queen in title, and must be subject to a Duke? The timid disposition of the King submits too tamely to this usurped authority.

SUFFOLK.

Madam, be patient, I conducted you to England, and if you confide in me, I promise to manage these affairs to your satisfaction.

QUEEN.

Besides the proud Protector, we have the imperious Cardinal, Somerset, Buckingham, and discontented York, the least of whom possesses more real power than the King, who enjoys only the shadow of sovereignty.

SUFFOLK.

Salisbury has as much influence as any you have named.

QUEEN.

But not all these contumelious spirits mortify me so much as the Protector's wife, the haughty Duchess of Gloucester. When she

appears at court, she far exceeds me in magnificence, her jewels are worth a duke's revenue. She had the insolence to say, a few days ago, that her wardrobe was more valuable than my father's territory, before you purchased me with two provinces.

SUFFOLK.

Madam, suppress your indignation, I have laid a snare for her, into which her ambition will speedily precipitate her. Although the overbearing temper of the Cardinal is odious, we must join him and his cabal, in order to overthrow the Protector; thus by removing our enemies one by one, we shall at last rise superior to them all, and then the reins of government shall be guided by you alone, unannoyed by the interference of any daring intermeddler.

Enter King Henry, Gloucester, Beaufort, Buckingham, and Salisbury.

KING HENRY.

I have no choice in determining whether Somerset or York shall be appointed Regent of France.

BUCKINGHAM.

Somerfet's talents are better adapted to the commission than those of York.

SALISBURY.

That is in your opinion: I think York worthier of the trust.

BEAUFORT.

Buckingham, give us some proofs of Somerfet's abilities.

QUEEN.

Be it sufficient, that it is the King's will, that Somerfet undertakes the regency.

GLOUCESTER.

Madam, the King is the proper judge of this affair.

QUEEN.

If so, he needs not the tutelage of a protector.

GLOUCESTER.

I am protector of the realm, but whenever my royal master desires to recal my authority, I am willing to resign it.

SUFFOLK.

Shew your readiness, by resigning at once,

for since you have been at the head of affairs, all has gone wrong. The arms of France have prevailed against us, and the nobility have been servilely subjected to your power.

BEAUFORT.

You have drained the resources of the kingdom, and extorted the wealth of the clergy to enrich your own private purpose.

BUCKINGHAM.

Your splendid palaces, and the jewels that adorn your Duchesses, have been purchased with the public money. But I have a still heavier charge to allege against you: you have perverted the law beyond its meaning, whenever you wished to punish an obnoxious offender.

QUEEN.

Your venal conduct, in the sale of towns and offices in France, could it be proved, would be more than sufficient to attain you of high treason.

GLOUCESTER.

If I do not withdraw, I shall lose all command of temper.

[Exit Gloucester.]

KING HENRY.

Make up your differences ; it gives me pain to be a spectator of such disputes among my best friends. Let me be mediator in this quarrel. Shake hands and be reconciled.

At St. Alban's.

King, Queen, Gloucester, Beaufort, and Suffolk, with Falconers helloing.

QUEEN.

I have not seen better sport these seven years, though the wind was much against us.

KING.

But what a point, my Lord, your falcon made, and what a pitch he flew above the rest. Birds, like men, are fond of soaring high.

SUFFOLK.

My Lord Protector's hawks imitate their master, and tower above their fellows.

GLOUCESTER.

It is a base mind that has no ambition to rise.

BEAUFORT.

You would rise above the clouds, were your wings long enough.

Enter Buckingham.

KING.

What news, my Lord of Buckingham?

BUCKINGHAM.

Such as I grieve to utter. A plot is discovered, contrived against your Majesty's life and crown; and, what is stronger and more unwelcome, the Duchess of Gloucester is at the head of it. The particulars are not yet known, but her Grace is in safe custody.

QUEEN.

Gloucester, it will be happy for you, if you can clear yourself of all connection with this traitorous crew.

GLOUCESTER.

Madam, Heaven is my witness, how faithfully I have served my king and country. Should this charge be brought home to my wife, it will load me with grief; but I have nothing

to offer in her vindication, for, noble as she is, if apostate to honour and virtue, she has forgotten what is due to herself, I banish her from my heart and affections.

KING.

We will remain here to night, and on our return to London, examine the truth of this accusation.

The Palace.

Sound of Trumpets. Enter King, Queen, and Nobles. The Duchess under Guard.

KING.

Stand forth, Dame Eleanor Cobham, Duchess of Gloucester, and receive the sentence of the law for your crimes. We banish you to the Isle of Man, for the remainder of your days, there to expiate, by reflection and repentance, the criminal transactions of your past life.

DUCHESS.

Welcome is exile, but far more welcome death.

GLOUCESTER.

Condemned by the law, I cannot save you. This dishonour I shall never surmount, it will bring me to an untimely grave. I beseech your Majesty, suffer me to be the companion of her exile; I may mitigate her sorrows by sharing them. [*Eleanor and the Guards go out.*]

KING.

Stay, good uncle; before you leave our presence, resign your staff. I will be my own protector, and my reliance shall be on Heaven. Now go in peace, and depend as much upon my esteem, as when you enjoyed your office,

QUEEN.

A king arrived at maturity, is fitted to govern without the assistance of another. Sir, give up your staff, and restore the helm of government to his proper guide.

GLOUCESTER.

My staff! here, noble Henry, is my staff; as willingly do I resign it, as ever I received it from your father. Farewell. May you reign prosperously when I am dead and forgotten.

[*Exit.*]

QUEEN.

Now Henry is king and Margaret queen ;
we were only pageants whilst under his pro-
tectorship.

A Parliament at Bury.

Enter King, Queen, Cardinal, and other Nobles.

KING.

I am surpris'd my Lord of Gloucester is
not come ; it is not usual for him to be late
in his attendance.

QUEEN.

Do you not perceive, or are you unwilling
to acknowledge, that the Duke's conduct is
strangely altered of late. He is become
haughty, distant, and reserved ; formerly he
was mild and affable, and submissive to a de-
gree of servility, but now he neglects the
common forms of civility. Truly, he is a
man of no small consequence among the com-
mon people, and can turn them to whatever
suits his purpose ; I think there is but little
policy in retaining so much about your per-

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son, one who evidently appears disaffected, We should not forget that he is next heir to the throne, and may entertain ambitious views as well as his wife. My Lords, if you do not join in my opinion, say what you think of Gloucester.

SUFFOLK.

My sentiments coincide exactly with those of your Majesty. It is not probable, that his Duchess would have engaged in such bold schemes, had she not expected encouragement from him? but suppose him ignorant of her designs, doubtless he has raised her hopes, by boasting continually of his high birth and near affinity to royalty, repeating that he stands next in succession. He conceals his daring pretensions, under the borrowed veil of moderation.

KING.

My friends, the vigilance you exert for our safety, is pleasing and deserves our praise; but if I am sincere, I must declare, that I believe our Uncle Gloucester as free from treasonous projects as a harmless infant.

QUEEN.

You judge of others by the goodness of your own heart ; his real character lies hid beneath a deceitful appearance of loyalty and attachment. We will beware of his stratagems. Our preservation depends upon his fall.

Enter Gloucester.

GLOUCESTER.

Happiness and prosperity to your Majesty. Forgive me for being so late in my attendance.

SUFFOLK.

My Lord of Gloucester, it had been better for you to have deferred your coming, unless you can prove yourself more loyal. I arrest you of high treason.

GLOUCESTER.

Your arrest, Suffolk, cannot put innocence out of countenance ; a heart unspotted is not easily daunted. The clearest streams are not more free from impurity, than my mind from disloyalty. Who are my accusers, or upon what ground do they form their accusations ?

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YORK.

It is thought, that you received bribes from France, and were the means of losing our acquisitions in that country, by withholding the pay of the soldiery.

GLOUCESTER.

Is there a man that dares to stain my honour, upon surmises only! Bring your proofs; I am ready to face the charge, the soldiers will acquit me; many large sums, from my private purse, have I distributed among the garrisons, the repayment of which I have never demanded, because I would not oppress the commons with too heavy burdens. My time, as well as property, was devoted to the public service, and as for bribes, I always spurned them with contempt.

BEAUFORT.

You are a good witness in your cause.

GLOUCESTER.

My testimony is true; may those, that are suborned to speak against me, give theirs as faithfully.

YORK.

During your protectorship, you inflicted punishments with a rigorous severity, contrary to the humanity of our law.

GLOUCESTER.

I was often blamed for too much lenity; except for murder, under my administration, justice gave way to mercy.

SUFFOLK.

You are accused of crimes of a still higher nature, from which, I fear, you will find it more difficult to clear yourself. You are committed to the custody of my Lord Cardinal, till the day appointed for your trial.

KING.

I trust you will be able to prove your innocence; my heart assures me, that you do not deserve to be suspected.

GLOUCESTER.

These are dangerous times, when your Majesty's most faithful servants are accused of disaffection. It is not my guilt, but the hatred of my enemies, that has brought me into this

danger. Nothing short of my life can satisfy their rancour.

SUFFOLK.

Lord Cardinal, he is your prisoner.

BEAUFORT.

Take him away, officers, and guard him safely.

[Exit Gloucester guarded.]

KING.

I am too much afflicted at the situation of the Duke of Gloucester, to attend further to business at present, therefore we will adjourn till to-morrow.

An Apartment at the Duke of Suffolk's.

Queen, Suffolk, Beaufort, and York.

QUEEN.

Gloucester's dissimulation has imposed upon the king, he laments his confinement with all the weakness of a child; were you all of my mind, we should be quickly rid of him.

BEAUFORT.

Whilst he lives, he will continue an ob-

stacle to all our views ; but on what account
can we condemn him ?

SUFFOLK.

Were he found guilty by the sentence of
the law, it would avail us nothing, for the
king would pardon him, or his popularity
would influence the people to rise in his fa-
vour : some surer means must be adopted.

YORK.

He is entrusted to my Lord Cardinal's care ;
let him devise a scheme to prevent his being
troublesome in future.

BEAUFORT.

Say, that you approve, and I will soon pro-
vide an executioner, that shall remove him
for ever from our sight.

SUFFOLK.

Here is my hand to ratify the deed.

QUEEN.

And mine.

YORK.

Let me add mine to complete the trio ; an
union that no one dare oppose.

An Apartment in the Palace.

*Enter two or three from the murder of Duke
Humphrey.*

FIRST.

Run to the Duke of Suffolk, let him know
we have dispatched his enemy as he com-
manded.

SECOND.

Oh that we had not, or that I had had no
share in it! his piteous groans will never be
out of my hearing.

Enter Suffolk.

FIRST:

We have performed your lordship's com-
mands.

SUFFOLK.

That is well, go to my house; for this bold
exploit you shall receive the reward I pro-
mised. But have you carefully observed my
directions, that there may be no cause for
suspicion?

FIRST.

We have in all things, my good Lord.

SUFFOLK.

The king and many of the peers are at hand :
away ! be gone ! [*The murderers retire.*]

Enter King and Queen with Attendants.

KING.

Bring Gloucester to our presence, for we
intend to hear whether he can disprove the
charges alleged against him.

SUFFOLK.

I will conduct him hither immediately.

[*Exit Suffolk.*]

KING.

Lords, take your places. I hope you will
show my Uncle Gloucester all the mercy that
the case admits.

QUEEN.

I trust he will receive a candid trial, and
with that advantage, be able to acquit himself
of this imputation.

KING.

Thanks, my gentle Consort, for your good

wishes. [*Enter Suffolk.*] Suffolk, what is the matter? your looks bespeak some dreadful accident. Where is my Uncle Gloucester?

SUFFOLK.

Dead in his bed, my Lord Gloucester is dead.

BEAUFORT.

We must submit patiently to the decrees of Providence. [*King swoons.*]

QUEEN.

Help, Lords, the king has fainted.

SUFFOLK.

Be calm, Madam, he revives.

KING.

Merciful Heaven!

SUFFOLK.

Comfort, my sovereign; gracious Henry, comfort.

KING.

Suffolk, do you presume to offer comfort, who overwhelmed me with these distressful tidings? Out of my sight, your countenance is like a messenger of death. My life is burdensome to me, since Lord Gloucester is dead.

QUEEN.

Why do you speak so sharply to Lord Suffolk? He was not the arbiter of the Duke's fate; and, although no cordial friendship subsisted between them, he laments his loss, as I do, with deep regret.

KING.

Alas! my joy is blasted, now Duke Humphrey is dead.

QUEEN,

Are all your pleasures buried with him? Is Margaret no longer dear to you? My company used to alleviate your bitterest cares, but now I have lost all power of soothing you, his image only occupies your mind. [*Noise within, enter Salisbury and many Commons.*]

SALISBURY.

The clamorous voice of rumour, attributes the death of the Duke of Gloucester, to the malignity of the Duke of Suffolk and Cardinal Beaufort. The Commons are enraged at the loss of their favourite, and will not be appeased, till they are informed of the particulars of his death,

KING.

It is too true that he is dead, but how he died is only known to him, whose all-seeing eye pierces through the darkest transactions. My good Salisbury, go to his chamber, and inspect the body, that you may see whether there are any marks of violence on it..

SALISBURY.

I go to obey your orders. [*Exit Salisbury.*]

KING.

O thou, that judgest all things, support me in this great extremity! Forgive me, if my suspicions of foul murder are erroneous, for judgment doth belong to thee alone.

[*Salisbury returns.*]

SALISBURY.

As surely as I hope to make my peace with Heaven, I do believe that violent hands have deprived this noble Duke of life.

SUFFOLK.

That is a bold assertion, unless you have pretty strong proofs to bring in its support.

SALISBURY.

The blood is settled in his face, his eye-

balls start beyond their natural size, his hair stands upright, and his nostrils seem stretched with struggling. The corps bears evident marks of violence in every part, and leaves no doubt upon my mind, how he came by his death.

SUFFOLK.

Who should have an opportunity of doing him an injury, whilst under the protection of Cardinal Beaufort and myself? I hope you do not mean to insinuate, that we are capable of such an action.

SALISBURY.

But both of you have threatened his destruction, and as he was in your power, it is not likely he should receive much friendship from either of you. This is certain, he has found an enemy.

QUEEN.

Surely you cannot suspect these noblemen guilty of such a treacherous deed? [*Noise of a crowd within.*] Enquire the cause of this disturbance. [*Salisbury goes out and returns.*]

SALISBURY.

Mighty Sovereign, the Commons send you word by me, that unless Suffolk be either condemned to die, or banished the kingdom without delay, they will force him from the palace, and tear him limb from limb. They accuse him with being the cause of good Duke Humphrey's death, and insist upon his receiving immediate punishment, as a security for the safety of your person, and welfare of the public.

SUFFOLK.

The low rank and ignorance of the Commons account for their boldness in sending such an improper message to the king ; but the enmity you bear me, rendered the office of repeating it agreeable to you.

KING.

Go, Salisbury, and tell them, that I thank them for their attachment to me ; and that if they had not urged me, it was my full intention to have banished Suffolk, for his overbearing spirit endangers the quiet of our

realm ; therefore, I swear, that he shall not remain longer than three days within my territory, on pain of death.

QUEEN.

Oh ! let me entreat you to soften this hard sentence.

KING.

You plead in vain. Had I but spoken it, I would have kept my word ; but as I have sworn it, nothing can make me change my purpose.

The Queen alone, musing.

Enter a Messenger.

QUEEN.

Whither are you running so fast ? Tell me what news you carry the king ?

MESSENGER.

I am sent with all speed to inform his Majesty, that Cardinal Beaufort lies at the point of death. A sudden illness has seized him, that deprives him of his understanding. His eyes stare wildly, he swears at every one that comes near him. Sometimes he raves, as if

he saw Duke Humphrey's ghost, and then he calls upon the King, as if he had some terrible secret to disclose.

QUEEN.

Go, deliver these sad tidings to the king.
[*Exit Messenger.*] Alas! what satisfaction does this world afford? As day succeeds to night, so certainly does misery torment a guilty soul. Oh, had I never known the Duke, then I should have been free from those self reproaches, that now sting me to the heart!

Beaufort's Bed-chamber.

Enter King and Salisbury to the Cardinal in bed.

KING.

How are you, my Lord? Speak, Beaufort, to your sovereign.

BEAUFORT.

If you be death, I will bribe you, to let me live, with treasure sufficient to purchase a kingdom.

KING.

Alas! a life ill-spent adds terrors to the approach of death.

SALISBURY.

It is your sovereign that speaks to you.

BEAUFORT.

Bring me to my trial when you please; I am ready. He died in his bed: where should he die? I am no physician, I cannot make men live whether they will or no. Oh torture me no more, I will confess! Is he alive again? Why then I am acquitted. Oh that meagre spectre is not like him when he was alive! a ghastly figure! hide me from it. Give me some drink, and bid the apothecary bring the poison which I ordered.

KING.

O thou, who knowest the secrets of all hearts, look down with mercy upon this wretch; be pleased to show him a ray of hope, that may soften the extremity of his despair.

SALISBURY.

His countenance is distorted with agony.

KING.

Peace to his soul! Lord Cardinal, if thou hast hope in heaven, hold up thy hand. He dies, and makes no sign.

SALISBURY.

Such an obdurate end argues a life of monstrous crimes.

KING.

Forbear to judge, we all rely on Heaven's mercy for forgiveness. Close up his eyes, and draw the curtains close. Let us retire, and meditate upon this awful scene.

THE NATURE OF TRUE RICHES.

PEOPLE of superficial observation are apt to imagine, that wealth consists in the possession of the precious metals only; not perceiving that, although they are the means of procuring necessary accommodations, in a state of civilized society, of themselves, they can add but little to our enjoyment, except from the ideas that are associated with

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them. Corn, wine, and oil, and a land flowing with milk and honey, were the temporal blessings promised to the Israelites, which instructs us, that the real wealth of nations is composed of those natural substances, that supply us with nourishing food, or cloathing to defend our bodies from the inclemency of the seasons. An abundant harvest of wholesome grain, and pastures covered with numerous flocks of cattle and sheep, would present a far more pleasing prospect of plenty and happiness, to a man unprejudiced by the false notions of wealth, adopted in social life, than the most valuable mines of gold and diamonds. Nature, with the tenderness of a provident mother, has enriched the surface of this terrestrial globe, with those productions that are most necessary to our comfort, and require industry and cultivation alone, to procure them in sufficient quantities, without exposing our lives to danger, or undergoing hardships that are beyond our powers : but the treasures that are less useful, she has consigned to deep recesses, where those who are inflamed with a

desire of obtaining them, must not only dare the most terrible disasters, and death in some of its most frightful forms; but are obliged to forego those pleasures, that arise from the contemplation of the beauties of creation and the comforts of society. Toil, difficulty, and frequently disappointment, are the end of their labour. Compare the occupations of a miner with those of a shepherd or a husbandman, and the preference is obvious: however, circumstances and a strong natural bias overcome all obstacles, and determine some individuals to adopt every species of profession; but surely, the voice of humanity pleads in favour of restraining, to a small number, those that are destined to drag out a joyless existence, in the dark bowels of the earth, where the cheerful rays of the enlivening sun never penetrate. The wisest legislators have formed their systems on the principle of promoting agriculture, as the most beneficial of all sciences, and of encouraging its advancement by lucrative and honourable rewards. In the early ages of the world, the inventor

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of any important discovery, in the practical part of this useful branch of knowledge, was ranked, after their death, among the gods. Minerva is supposed to have taught the art of spinning, and preparing wool for the loom; and Ceres to have discovered the method of raising corn: their grateful countrymen, sensible of the advantages they reaped from the exertion of their talents, perpetuated their memory, by building temples and raising altars to their honour.

PERSONS.

Ti-hoang, *Emperor of China.*

Kang-hi, *a Mandarin.*

Yang-ti, *a Merchant.*

Chang, *a Manufacturer.*

Hio, *a Farmer.*

Ti-hoang, seated on a throne, attended by Mandarins, administering justice.

KANG-HI. [*Bowing to the ground.*]

Sacred Emperor, true fountain of honour, your late proclamation, promising to bestow re-

wards upon those, who can produce inventions that shall be useful, either in science or in art, has drawn many claimants, who boast of being entitled to your bounty, and are waiting without till you please to examine their pretensions.

TI-HOANG.

The throne, which supports us, is the seat of Mercy and Justice. We are entrusted with power, in order to do good: can we perform that pious office more effectually, for the benefit of our people, than by encouraging industry and punishing idleness? The man, of whatever rank, who devotes his time and talents to the improvement of those arts, which contribute to the happiness and accommodation of the human race, may truly be called a benefactor to his species, and is entitled not only to the gratitude of his fellow-citizens, but to the rewards of royal munificence. Order these persons into our presence, that we may form a judgment of the merit of their claims, and appoint to each one a recompence proportioned to the utility of

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his discovery. [*Kang-hi withdraws, and returns soon after, introducing Yang-ti, Chiang, and Hio.*]

CHIANG.

Mighty Sovereign, the woollen manufactory is the employment in which I have been brought up: the property, I inherited from my father, has preserved me from the servility of manual labour, and has afforded me sufficient leisure to apply my mind to the improvement of the art, by which I gain a livelihood. Stimulated by your patronage of useful inventions, I redoubled my efforts, to facilitate the process of spinning and weaving wool into stuffs of the finest texture; and have succeeded by the construction of a machine, that produces yarn of more exquisite fineness, than that spun by the most skilful hand. By this means, I am enabled to excel my competitors in the same branch of business, both in the superior quality of my goods and the reduction of my prices. The advantage resulting from the use of this machine is so evident, that I cannot entertain a doubt

but, that as soon as it is made public, it will be universally adopted.

TI-HOANG.

What is your profession, and the merit that urges you to make this application?

HIO.

Agriculture has been my occupation from my infancy, and continues to be my delight and amusement. The superfluities of my emoluments have always been applied to the perfecting my favourite study, by making experiments in husbandry; and I have appropriated a certain portion of my land to the same purpose. After many expensive projects, I have discovered a method of artificially watering my rice grounds, whenever I think them too dry, and of draining off the water again, after they have received sufficient moisture. The success has repaid me with interest, by the fertility which crowns my fields. Smiling harvests mark the boundaries of my farm, whilst those of my neighbours are blasted by unpropitious seasons, and languish from continued drought.

TI-HOANG.

Let the next claimant declare his title to our favour.

YANG-TI.

My title, most powerful of monarchs, surpasses those that have preceded me; their improvements have their value, but are employed upon gross commodities, and are more important to low manufacturers and peasants, than to the great; whilst my discovery will not only enrich myself, but will bring vast treasures into the public coffers. The object of my researches is the hidden wealth of mines, and I challenge any one to come forward, and prove himself superior in the art; many veins of the inferior metals I have found out, that have produced large profits to their possessors, who have recompenced me liberally for my skill and perseverance; but never did I raise my hopes so high, as to suppose that fortune would direct me to so invaluable a source of riches. There is a certain mountain in one of the distant provinces, that I was exploring for gold, but who can

speak my raptures, upon discovering that it
 was filled with mines of diamonds of the finest
 water, the largest size, and the purest grain !
 With full confidence in your Majesty's ap-
 probation, I submit my pretensions to the
 highest prize to your generous decision, not
 doubting, but you will dispose of your bounty
 according to merit.

TI-HOANG.

Come forward, Hio, and receive from our
 hand a reward, at once honourable and pro-
 fitable. The utility of your pursuits elevates
 you above the rank of your equals ; besides
 the prize destined to the most excellent in-
 vention, we shall ennoble you, by raising you
 to the order of Mandarins. Manufactures
 are secondary to agriculture, therefore, we
 adjudge the next prize to Chiang. Industry
 and ingenuity are not sufficient to render a
 man useful to his country, unless they are di-
 rected to objects that are of public benefit ; if
 these talents are perverted to trifling or per-
 nicious designs, they become baneful to the
 community they were intended to serve, as

well as to the individual who possesses them. This finder of diamonds may depart, and close up those avenues to luxury and false wealth, the advantages of which he has so much boasted, tending only to corrupt the morals of the people, by converting that labour which should procure bread for the hungry, and clothes for the naked, into useless toil, for the glittering toys of pride and ambition. A mine of diamonds may amuse the curious, and gratify the taste of the opulent, but cannot supply a bushel of corn to alleviate the wants of a starving people.

MUSTAPHA ZARI, A TURKISH MERCHANT.

THE incident, upon which the following dialogue turns, is one proof among thousands, that virtue is the offspring of all the various modes of religious faith of all countries, ranks, and professions; and teaches us to extend our candour and benevolence to the

good of every denomination. It is a lamentable truth, that many of those who dignify themselves with the name of christians, are greatly surpassed in the practice of moral duties, by men, who have not been favoured with the glorious light of the gospel : a clear testimony, that it is much easier to shelter vice under an exalted name, and the exact performance of external rites, than to regulate the actions, and restrain the passions, within those limits that revelation and reason prescribe. Religion, which is the foundation of morals, is a work of the heart, and can only be promoted, by guarding that source of good and evil with the greatest caution. Those affections and desires, which are natural to us as men, adorn our nature, whilst preserved in moderation ; but when indulged to excess, they deform and injure us by their tendency to lead us into the paths of vice. Thus an inordinate desire of wealth degenerates into covetousness, which, if not checked by principle, would proceed beyond the bounds of strict honesty, when an opportunity

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of gain is presented, free from risk of exposure. Men engaged in commercial pursuits, are in most danger of such temptations. In making contracts, they are too apt to be unmindful of the nice distinctions of justice, either overrating those commodities they have to dispose of, or undervaluing the article they intend to purchase. The merchant who preserves an unblemished integrity, and disdains the low chicanery of trade, affords a model of excellence, well deserving the imitation of every one engaged in traffic, whether on an extensive or a limited scale. Mustapha Zari was such a character, though a mahomedan. He resided in Constantinople, and traded in silks, in which he was joined by Monsieur de Vau-
brun, a French merchant of considerable eminence; who, being recalled to Europe by some family concerns, was obliged to dissolve the connection, and take leave of the friendly Turk. The subsequent transaction happened at the time of their separation, and is the best illustration of the disinterested uprightness of the Musselman.

*An Apartment in Mustapha Zari's House.
Mustapha Zari and Monsieur de Vaubrun.*

MONSIEUR DE VAUBRUN.

I have lately received letters from France, which bring me intelligence of the death of my father's elder brother : as he has left no children, I am his heir, and shall come into the possession of a good estate, sufficient to enable me to live comfortably, free from the cares of business, whilst it will supply me with employment, that will fill my time agreeably ; for I intend to be my own steward, and inspect the concerns of my tenants myself, as a life of idleness would be rather a punishment than an indulgence to me, who have been always accustomed to activity. The pleasure of obtaining an easy competency is diminished by my regret at leaving you, my dear friend ; for this circumstance obliges me to embark immediately for my native country, it will therefore be necessary to settle our accounts, and dissolve the partnership as soon as possible.

MUSTAPHA ZARI.

I cannot lose a person I so highly value, and whose fidelity I have so often experienced, without reluctance; but the recollection of your happy change of fortune ought to reconcile me to my destiny. May you long enjoy all the blessings of prosperity and affluence, sometimes remembering Mustapha, who will never lose the impression your repeated acts of kindness have engraved on his heart. Regularity in accounts I have always considered as essentially necessary to an upright tradesman; mine are ready for inspection at any moment. I have only to refer to my books to name the balance between us. [*He goes to a desk, and opens some books.*] Be pleased to examine them yourself, and you will perceive that you are indebted to me nine hundred sequins.

MONSIEUR DE VAUBRUN.

I acknowledge the justice of your claim, and shall pay it willingly. Open those bags and count the money, I believe that you will

find, that they contain the exact sum that is your due.

MUSTAPHA ZARI.

Far be it from me to mistrust my friend, your word is all the satisfaction I require; you have acted with the nicest honour during the course of our transactions, and shall I suspect you of falsehood, when we are upon the point of exchanging an eternal adieu? I will not break one of the seals, it would be a lasting imputation upon the sincerity of my professions of esteem.

MONSIEUR DE VAUBRUN.

Generous Turk, you judge of the integrity of others, by the purity of your own bosom; may your unsuspecting frankness never be imposed upon, by the artful designs of villany. The time of my departure hastens; I have some affairs to transact before I leave this city; therefore, I must bid you farewell, wishing you all manner of prosperity and happiness.

MUSTAPHA ZARI.

Adieu, my friend! Should your affairs

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need any service in this country, command me without hesitation, at all times; for I shall rejoice to have an opportunity of being useful to you.

Mustapha Zari and a Dutch Merchant.

MUSTAPHA ZARI.

I suppose you are come to receive the money I owe you, for those goods I lately bought of you?

DUTCH MERCHANT.

You conjecture rightly; times are hard, and money scarce, or I should not trouble you so soon. The sum is fifteen hundred sequins; no trifle in the course of trade, for well employed it will bring a handsome profit, which I cannot afford to lose by letting it lie dormant.

MUSTAPHA ZARI.

There needs no apology for asking for your own. I have prepared it for you. Here are six hundred sequins, and the remaining nine hundred are inclosed in those five sealed bags. I have not counted the money in

them; you have them as I received them, upon the faith of a most worthy, honest man, with whom I have been in partnership for years; he has just left me, his affairs obliging him to return to his home and connections.

DUTCH MERCHANT.

Do you suppose that I will take money upon the faith of any man? You are at liberty to see with other men's eyes, if you please, but I will make use of my own. [*He unseals the Bags and counts the Money.*] They are all right, good morning, honest Mustapha.

MUSTAPHA ZARI.

Hold, friend, you have had your way, now I must be indulged in mine; I am much accustomed to count money, and there appears to me to be a mistake: by your leave, I will tell after you. Ha! just as I suspected: my dear de Vaubrun has been in an error, he has paid me two hundred and fifty zequins over what is my due, and you have had the effrontery to tell me, that they were right, though counted in my presence, Take that which belongs

to you, and think yourself mercifully treated, to be suffered to escape the punishment your perfidy deserves.

Mustapha calls a Servant.

MUSTAPHA ZARI.

Saddle my swiftest mule, and hasten to the place where Monsieur de Vaubrun is to embark; lose not a moment, but be sure to reach him before his departure, as you value my favour. Deliver him this writing, it is of importance, and I will reward your diligence at your return. “*Mustapha Zari to Monsieur de Vaubrun.* My friend, my sense of justice prevents me from detaining any thing beyond my right, or treating you as a native of Holland would have served me. You may remember, I took the money that you paid me, when we parted, upon your credit; and having occasion to pay it away to a Dutch merchant, he chose to count it, not feeling the same confidence in my honour, by which means I discovered, that there were two hundred and fifty sequins over and above

the sum supposed to be in the bags, which his conscience would have suffered him to conceal, had not I detected the fraud. I return them to you as your right, supposing it arose from mistake. God prohibits all injustice.

DUKE OF ORLEANS.

THE Duke of Orleans, brother to Louis the thirteenth, was a true hero, if magnanimity, valour, disinterestedness, and forgiveness of injuries can dignify a man with that title. The historians of his time relate many anecdotes of him, that do him the highest honour; some of which are so apposite to the present design, from the instructive lessons they contain, as to require no apology for inserting them. In the first dialogue it is necessary to bring two distant periods together, in order to place the successive transactions of the principal agents in one point of view.

PERSONS.

Duke of Orleans,

An Assassin, *hired to murder him.*

The Bedchamber of the Duke of Orleans, early in the morning, the Duke in bed.

Enter an Assassin.

DUKE OF ORLEANS.

I am not ignorant of the purpose that has brought you hither, you are come with a design of taking away my life. What offence have I committed against you, that can induce you to undertake the perpetration of so heinous a crime? I am not conscious that I have ever injured you; but to convince you, that noble minds delight to return good for evil, I forbear to debase myself with revenge: and, although assistance is near, and your destiny in my hands, I allow you to depart unmolested. My guards will suffer you to pass, supposing that you have been sent to me with some message of importance.

ASSASSIN. [*Kneels to the Duke.*]

Gracious Prince, you have awakened me to a sense of my own guilt. With shame and contrition I confess the truth of your accusation. It is not the suggestions of malice or retaliation that has led me to this horrid enterprise, (for which I shall for ever despise myself) but the persuasions of your enemies, who have seduced me by the hopes of vast gain. I do not allege this as an extenuation of my crime, but rather as an aggravation. To attempt the destruction of one, who has never offended me, from the desire of gold alone, is a baseness that nothing can palliate.

DUKE OF ORLEANS.

The reproaches of your own conscience will be sufficient punishment; once more, receive my pardon, and depart in peace.

ASSASSIN.

Words are too feeble to express my gratitude, such goodness surely will not go unrewarded: a time may come, though now unforeseen, when fortune will give me an opportunity of demonstrating my sense of your cle-

mency. The events of this day, have made impressions on my mind, that can never be effaced. Your example has been more beneficial to the cause of virtue, than the most persuasive discourses. You have the satisfaction of having recalled a profligate from the pursuit of vice. I am determined to reform, from this moment, and adopt a new course of life; my future endeavours shall be exerted to atone for my past wickedness.

A Field of Battle in Flanders.

A Skirmish, in which the Duke of Orleans is engaged on one side, and his former Assassin on the other. The Duke almost surrounded by the enemy.

DUKE OF ORLEANS.

Fight on, my brave comrades, never let it be said, that we have yielded to an enemy, whom we have so often conquered. Our valour only can extricate us from the present danger; exert yourselves, and we shall still be superior. Alas! I have lost my sword. A sword, a sword, I shall be compelled to

surrender myself a prisoner, unless I can procure a sword. Who will supply his general with a sword ?

ASSASSIN.

That happy task is reserved for me : [*Delivers a sword into the Duke's hand.*] The fortunate moment is arrived, that affords my grateful heart the long desired opportunity, of acknowledging the benefit I owe you. You gave me my life when I deserved to lose it. The accidents of this encounter enable me to rescue your's from immediate destruction. Accept my sword, my honoured benefactor, and my services shall accompany it. Henceforth suffer me to attach myself to your fortune. I will fight under your banner, and prove my fidelity, if occasion require, in spilling my blood in your defence. [*The enemy beaten off and dispersed, by the assistance of the Assassin and his party.*]

DUKE OF ORLEANS.

This timely interposition has fully repaid your obligation ; come into my tent, let all past animosities be forgotten, I accept your

offer of service and allegiance, and shall, in future, consider you as a faithful adherent, devoted to me by the motives of esteem and affection.

THE DUKE OF ORLEANS AND THE GOVERNOR OF BOURBOURGH, A TOWN IN FLANDERS, WHICH THE DUKE WAS BESIEGING.

PERSONS,

Duke of Orleans.

Duke of Guise.

Several Officers.

Governor of Bourbourg.

Messenger.

*The Camp of the Duke of Orleans before
Bourbourg.*

Duke of Orleans and Duke of Guise.

DUKE OF GUISE,

One of the soldiers passing by, has found this arrow lying within a few yards of your

highness's tent, with a letter fastened to it; the seals are yet unbroken: being addressed to you, it probably contains some overtures for surrendering, from the governor, who may despair of holding out against the preparations we have made.

DUKE OF ORLEANS.

This is a strange method of conveying his sentiments; a public herald would have been more consistent with my dignity, and the respect due from a suppliant enemy. Let me see the letter, I am impatient to read its contents. [*Reads.*] “*The Governor of Bour-
bourg to the noble Duke of Orleans.* Most valiant Prince, the high esteem in which I hold your character, both for courage and military conduct, with the tender regard I feel for my fellow citizens, induce me to spare the blood that may be shed upon this occasion. Instigated by the principles of humanity, I have contrived this private manner of making you a proposal. Fifty thousand pieces of gold, and your royal promise of being continued in my office, shall open the

gates of the city to you to-morrow night, and give free admission to your soldiers. The obvious advantages of this offer must ensure your acceptance of it. A messenger from me shall wait upon you in the morning, to receive your answer, upon which my future measures will depend." Most infamous betrayer of the charge entrusted to his protection! assuredly he supposes that I resemble him, or he would never have dared to persuade me to bribe him to perform an act of villainy.

DUKE OF GUISE.

His venal conscience, ready to receive a bribe, does not condemn those, who corrupt others, in order to attain their designs.

DUKE OF ORLEANS.

Conscious shame impelled him to this ingenious artifice for the conveyance of his letter; my answer shall be delivered in a more public manner, as I have no motive for concealment, but shall feel a satisfaction in exposing this treacherous governor to the contempt he deserves. Let some of my officers

be called, I will dispatch one of them with a suitable reply. [*The Duke of Guise gives orders to a servant to summons several officers: they enter.*] I have received a most flagitious proposal from the Governor, which I am desirous of making known to you, by which he offers, for a certain sum, to deliver the city into our hands. The time is near, when his messenger should arrive, to enquire whether I accept or reject his master's terms; I appoint one of you to return with him, and tell this treacherous Governor, as publicly as possible, that the Duke of Orleans does not come before the town in the character of a merchant, to purchase it at the debasing price of treason; but in that of a soldier, at the head of an army flushed with continual victories. Tell him, that the only measure he can pursue, to secure my generosity and clemency, is to surrender unconditionally, as I never use any other weapons towards a yielding enemy.

LORD CHATHAM (WHEN MR. PITT) AND
THE KING OF SARDINIA.

IN collecting anecdotes of eminent persons, the general tribute that is due to virtue, assimilates the heroes of different countries into one group, which interesting picture may be greatly enriched, by the contributions of our favoured isle. The freedom of her government, and the wisdom of her laws, with the originality of character, that distinguishes her sons from those of her continental neighbours, have united in producing citizens superlatively excellent, in the various departments of literature, philosophy, and morals. In her list of patriots she yields to no nation upon earth; the love of country glows in the bosoms of all orders of her inhabitants; she has even exhibited to the world, the rare example of patriot ministers; an assertion that cannot be doubted, whilst the disinterested names of Chatham and Rocking-

ham remain engraven on the hearts of Englishmen. By the influence of his superior abilities, the former emerged from the retirement of a private situation to the highest offices of the state, which he filled with such a wonderful display of talents and vigour, as to retrieve our affairs from the embarrassments which, at that time, oppressed them, and raised them to the most exalted pitch of national prosperity. He became, at once, the dread of foreign enemies and the idol of his countrymen, who rewarded him with that degree of popularity, that can only be bestowed by the unanimous voice of a free people; as remote from the corrupt plaudits of base sycophants, as the splendour of truth is from the glittering tinsel of falsehood. Every feature of his character was upon a great scale, his genius was vast and comprehensive, his perception clear and defined, which enabled him to adopt the most direct method of attaining the object of his pursuit. He had a great deal of ambition, but it was of that noble species that embraces the exaltation of a

nation, not the paltry interests of an individual. He was lavish of the public treasure; not for the purpose of enriching himself or his connections, but for that of promoting the prosperity of the commonwealth. Although suffering, from his youth, under the weight of bodily infirmity, he was temperate in personal indulgence, and indefatigable in his attention to the affairs of government. After passing a long life in the service of his country, he was seized with the approach of death in the House of Lords, whilst ably defending her from the machinations of pretended friends, and the open attacks of declared enemies. This great man might, with more truth, be said to die in the bed of honour, than a mighty conqueror, when he expires upon the field of battle.

PERSONS.

Mr. Pitt.

Secretary to Mr. Pitt.

King of Sardinia.

Minister of the King of Sardinia.

Mr. Pitt and one of his private Secretaries.

SECRETARY.

Half per cent. on the subsidies that are paid to foreign powers, is a regular perquisite of the paymaster's office ; therefore, I suppose I may place the sum arising from those granted to the King of Sardinia and the Queen of Hungary to your account.

MR. PITT.

By no means : I did not enter the service of my country, for the sake of enriching my own private purse ; and as interest is not my motive, I disclaim all advantages but those conferred upon me, as the legal salary of my department.

SECRETARY.

I admire your disinterestedness, but surely you are entitled, without the least impeachment of your honour, to those perquisites, which have always been accepted, as their right, by your predecessors, whose characters have been most approved.

MR. PITT.

The conduct of others is no rule for me to follow, the dictates of conscience are my surest guide; by them I am instructed, that whoever is entrusted with the public treasures, should have clean hands and pure hearts, free from the pollution of covetousness. By adopting received customs, I might easily amass riches. It has been usual to retain large sums in the paymaster's hands, which have brought several thousands annually to those in office. I do not approve the practice, and have, on that account, placed those sums in the bank, where they are not only safely deposited, but always ready to supply the exigencies of the state.

SECRETARY.

Your disinterestedness is truly astonishing. This incorruptible virtue will gain great admiration, though it is much to be feared, that it will find but few imitators.

King of Sardinia and his Minister.

MINISTER.

I have the pleasure to acquaint your Majesty, that the subsidy granted by the British parliament is received, attended by a very extraordinary circumstance. It has been an established custom, for the paymaster of the forces to take half per cent. upon all subsidies paid to foreign courts, as a private gratuity; but the present paymaster declines it, from motives of disinterestedness, and has sent the whole sum undiminished by any personal claim.

KING OF SARDINIA.

This conduct is very uncommon. That greatness of mind, which is superior to the love of riches, is an unusual quality, and is seldom found, but in those characters that are distinguished from the vulgar by rare virtues and extensive talents. Mr. Pitt is an object of admiration and esteem all over Europe. Let the sum that would have belonged to him, in the usual course, be remitted to him as a

royal present from me, expressive of my personal regard and approbation of his integrity.

King of Sardinia and the same Minister.

MINISTER.

In compliance with your Majesty's command, I have offered Mr. Pitt the sum you desired, as a testimony of your royal approbation of his disinterestedness, with respect to the subsidy. The substance of his reply is, that as the British Parliament had granted the entire sum for your Majesty's service, he could not conscientiously accept any part of it: that he laid claim to no merit, but that of having done his duty, which he was happy to find you approved. He concluded, by entreating you, not to impute his refusal to any want of respect, but to that motive alone, by which he was actuated.

KING OF SARDINIA.

This almost surpasses belief. Surely, this Englishman is somewhat more than a mere mortal.

MR. AND MRS. HOWARD.

THE most familiar incident becomes important, when it throws light upon the domestic manners of those, who have been celebrated as the friends of wisdom and virtue. The daily journal of such a man as the benevolent Mr. Howard, would probably excite greater desires in young minds to do good, than the most powerful persuasions to the practice of virtue. The eloquent pen of Mr. Burke has described, in such a masterly style, the occupations that filled the principal part of this extraordinary person's time, that it is impossible to give a clearer illustration of his character, than by the following quotation. "Mr. Howard has visited all Europe; not to survey the sumptuousness of palaces, or the stateliness of temples; not to make accurate measurements of the remains of ancient grandeur, nor to form a scale of the curiosity of modern art; not to collect medals, or collate

manuscripts : but to dive into the depths of dungeons ; to plunge into the infection of hospitals ; to survey the mansions of sorrow and pain ; to take the gage and dimensions of misery, depression, and contempt ; to remember the forgotten ; to attend to the neglected ; to visit the forsaken ; and to compare and collate the distresses of all men in all countries. His plan is original, and it is as full of genius as it is of humanity. It was a voyage of discovery ; a circumnavigation of charity. Already the benefit of his labour is felt, more or less, in every country. I hope he will anticipate his final reward, by seeing all its effects fully realized in his own. He will receive, not by retail, but in gross, the reward of those who visit the prisoner ; and he has so forestalled and monopolized this branch of charity, that there will be, I trust, but little room to merit by such acts of benevolence hereafter." It is by no means incumbent on people in general, to travel to distant countries for the purpose of alleviating the condition of prisoners, or visiting the sick and distressed ; but it is the indis-

pensable duty of every individual, according to their ability and circumstances, to contribute to the comfort and happiness of all, with whom they are connected, by either the ties of relationship or neighbourhood: innumerable are the means of softening the bitterness of affliction; a kind look, a sympathetic tear, will sometimes administer consolation. Were the offices of humanity confined to the distribution of pecuniary aid, the rich only could be benevolent; but we are taught to believe that charity is an universal duty, required of all, who are the followers of Jesus Christ, which leads to the conclusion, that the disposition to show kindness towards every one, is the essential part of this virtue, and equally attainable by the indigent, as by those who abound in wealth."

Mr. and Mrs. Howard; or New Year's Day,

MR. HOWARD.

The commencement of a new year produces serious reflections upon the events of

the past, and promising hopes for the prosperity of the future.

MRS. HOWARD.

The retrospect of a year well spent, affords peace to a reflecting mind; and nothing is a more effectual means of ensuring that satisfaction, than order in the disposal of time and money. It has often astonished me, to observe how irregular many worthy persons are, who sincerely intend to act well, but for want of a judicious arrangement of their affairs, fail of doing half the good they might otherwise accomplish with ease.

MR. HOWARD.

Your observation is just. The leisure of the affluent is frequently wasted in the most frivolous pursuits, whilst they fancy themselves oppressed with business, which might be readily dispatched, by allotting a certain portion of time to useful employment, and the rest might reasonably be devoted to innocent amusement.

MRS. HOWARD.

The same remarks apply equally to th

disposal of property. A person of moderate income is rich, if he live within his fortune; and by wisely regulating his expences, provides a store, in case of his own wants, or the necessities of others.

MR. HOWARD.

These sentiments accord with the plan we have always pursued. A limitation of the different branches of expenditure, admits of a proportional allotment to charitable purposes; nor should amusement be entirely left out of the scheme. In casting up our accounts of the past year, I find that a considerable sum remains of our allowance, undisposed of, which I desire to appropriate to your service. Pearls are much in fashion, if you approve it, I will order a set for you at my jewellers.

MRS. HOWARD.

It is not insensibility to your kindness, that inclines me to refuse your offer; but valuable ornaments are no gratification to me, whilst I have the happiness of pleasing you, with the aid of simplicity alone.

MR. HOWARD.

Think of some other mode of applying this sum, more congenial to your sentiments, for I insist upon devoting it wholly to you. The lakes in Westmorland are visited by most people of taste: shall we indulge ourselves with an excursion thither in the summer?

MRS. HOWARD.

Travelling is very entertaining and agreeable; but I have no inclination to leave home, where I always find more happiness and enjoyment than elsewhere.

MR. HOWARD.

Name some object that will obtain your preference. Will you like to add a handsome piece of plate to our sideboard?

MRS. HOWARD.

I am sure these proposals arise from a desire of obliging me, rather than to satisfy yourself; or, perhaps, you wish to try whether a woman can resist expensive trifles. Some plan of benevolence would be more suitable to the tenor of your general conduct. Many of our aged neighbours are compelled to suffer

cold, and the inclemency of the different seasons, from the wretchedness of the hovels they inhabit; can the money be disposed of more agreeably to us both, than in erecting some neat, comfortable cottages for the accommodation of their declining years?

MR. HOWARD,

Amiable woman, neither dress, pleasure, nor splendour, are able to seduce you from those superior views of softening the calamities, and increasing the comforts of all around you. The surveyor shall be sent for to-morrow, to consult with you upon the plans best adapted to the purpose. Plainness and convenience should be united in the dwellings of the poor, whilst every attention should be paid to the various means of rendering them healthy and commodious.



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THE HISTORY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON
FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT TO THE PRESENT TIME

BY JOHN WATKINS

THE HISTORY OF THE CITY OF BOSTON
FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT TO THE PRESENT TIME

The history of the city of Boston is a subject of great interest and importance. It is a city of many centuries, and its history is full of interest and importance. The city was founded in 1630, and has since that time been a center of commerce and industry. It has been the seat of many great events, and has played a prominent part in the history of the United States.

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